

# "The First Day of the Week"

## (part 2)

### Luke 24:13-35

In the message earlier this morning, we saw a timeline of events leading up to the guards reporting to the chief priests. As review, the events went like this:

#### Early Morning (before dawn)

- **Women travel to the tomb** with spices to anoint Jesus' body. –*Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1-2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1*
- **An earthquake occurs** and an angel rolls away the stone. –*Matthew 28:2-4*
- **Jesus has already risen** by this point. –*Mark 16:6; Luke 24:6*

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#### Around Dawn

- **The women arrive and find the stone rolled away.** –*Mark 16:4; Luke 24:2*
- **Mary Magdalene runs to tell Peter and John** that the tomb is empty. –*John 20:2*
- **Other women (perhaps still at the tomb) see angels** who proclaim Jesus has risen. –*Matthew 28:5-7; Mark 16:5-7; Luke 24:4-7*
- **The women leave to tell the disciples**, afraid yet joyful. –*Matthew 28:8; Mark 16:8; Luke 24:8-10*

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#### Shortly After Dawn

- **Peter and John run to the tomb**, find it empty, and see the grave clothes. –*John 20:3-9; Luke*

24:12

- **Mary Magdalene returns to the tomb**, sees two angels, and then sees **Jesus Himself**, though she doesn't recognize Him at first. –*John 20:11-17*
  - **Jesus tells Mary not to cling to Him** and to go tell the disciples. –*John 20:17-18*
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### Later That Morning

- **Jesus appears to the other women** on the road, and they worship Him. –*Matthew 28:9-10*
  - **The guards report to the chief priests** and are bribed to spread the lie that Jesus' body was stolen. –*Matthew 28:11-15*
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### Later That Day

- **Jesus appears to two disciples on the road to Emmaus** (Cleopas and another). –*Luke 24:13-32; Mark 16:12*
- **They return to Jerusalem and report to the Eleven.** –*Luke 24:33-35*
- **Jesus appears to the disciples** (without Thomas), showing them His wounds and eating in their presence. –*Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-23*

In that earlier message, we saw that there was a **preparation made** (Matt. 28:1-4), a **presentation given** (Matt. 28:5-10), and we began to look at the **proclamations heard** (Matt. 28:6, 11-15).

- I. THE PROCLAMATION BY THE ANGEL - "HE IS RISEN" - MATT. 28:6
- II. THE PROCLAMATION BY THE WOMEN - "HE IS GONE"

**III. THE PROCLAMATION BY THE APOSTLES - "WE DON'T BELIEVE" (BUT THEY WOULD VERY SHORTLY) - MARK 16.11, 12; LUKE 24.11, 33**

**IV. THE PROCLAMATION BY THE GUARDS - "HE'S MISSING" - MATT. 18:11-15**

And now we come to the final proclamation that we will review on this Resurrection Sunday:

**V. THE PROCLAMATION BY THE RISEN LORD - "I AM ALIVE"**

**A. To Mary Magdalene first - Mark 16:9**

Mark 16:9

<sup>9</sup> Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

**B. Then to the other women at the tomb - Matt. 28:9-10**

**C. Then to the two disciples on the Road - Mark 16:12; Luke 24:13-35**

1. "Two of them" - only one is named (Cleopas) so we can be confident that there were more than just the 11 Apostles gathered together after the crucifixion (most likely in John's house).

Many believe the other one was Luke himself, leaving his name out so he didn't attract attention to himself as the Gospel writer. Some believe it was Peter but that is unlikely.

2. **Vs. 13** - "a village called Emmaus" - 60 furlongs, or about 7 ½ miles (a two-hour walk) from Jerusalem. Nothing else is said in the

Bible about this village (it's only mentioned this one time). It was most likely in a northern direction, considering the disciples were probably on their way to Galilee at the time.

3. **Vs. 14-15a** show they were walking together discussing the events that had just taken place - the trials, the crucifixion, the missing body - all of it.
4. **Vs. 15b-16; Mark 16:12** - as they walked, Jesus appeared and started walking with them (He would have appeared, basically, out of nowhere - but that didn't seem to alarm them). Although they would have recognized who He was before He was crucified, His identity was hidden from them at the beginning of their conversation.
  - a) **"Their eyes were holden"** - restrained or limited in some way.
  - b) Mark 16:12 says He appeared to them in **"another form"** - He didn't appear as the same man He was when He left, at this point anyways - this would account for their eyes not recognizing Him.
  - c) **"That they should not know him"** - this seems to be done to allow Jesus the freedom to talk to these two disciples without the interference that would have been there had they recognized Him - **He wanted them to recognize who He was based upon what He said rather than on what He looked like. Points to the issue of faith, again.**
5. **Vs. 17-19a** - Jesus enters into the discourse and asks them what they are talking about - they answer with some astonishment that He

didn't know what was going on.

6. **Vs. 19b** – Cleopas uses a past tense verb to explain who he was talking about – “Jesus of Nazareth, which **was** a prophet” – they had no concept that He was the one talking to them because they knew that Jesus had died.
7. **Vs. 20** references the crucifixion and the work of the Sanhedrin.

8. **Vs. 21** is the key part of this conversation.

- a) It points to the real issue, an issue that had been seen since Jesus entered Jerusalem on what is called Palm Sunday.
  - b) “We trusted that it had been he which should have **redeemed Israel**” – **not soul-redemption**, but they, as many Jews, were looking for the Messiah **to take the rule from Rome and rule Israel as King**.
  - c) They simply refused to accept that there was another redemption that Jesus came to bring.
9. **Vs. 21b-24** Cleopas relates the episode of the women bringing news that the body of Jesus was gone – and they again indicate they didn't believe He had risen.
  10. **Vs. 25-26** – Jesus then points out how slow they are to accept what the Bible says. **We do the same thing today – no matter how many times the Lord has brought us through the fires of life, we still wonder if He will continue to do so. We are “slow of heart to believe” as well.**
  11. **Vs. 27-31** – Jesus teaches them the Scriptures concerning Himself, and all that He had

endured for the redemption of mankind and then goes with them to one of their homes and after blessing the meal their eyes were opened so they could recognize who He really was, and then He “vanished out of their sight.”

- a) Jesus was no longer bound to the limitations of His human body and no longer bound by the laws of nature.
- b) He now had control over the laws of nature as He did in creation.

#### John 1:1-3

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> The same was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

#### Colossians 1:15-17

<sup>15</sup> Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: <sup>16</sup> For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

12. **Vs. 32 - very important text** - when the Risen Lord talked to them, and taught them the Scriptures, they acknowledged that their **“heart” burned within them** when they heard it taught.

a) Question - does our heart burn within us when we hear the Word of God taught, especially those truths concerning Christ?

- b) These men recognized, after they realized who

it was with whom they were talking, that **they had been much moved by the teaching of the Scriptures** – it seems like they had not heard it that way before.

c) There are a lot of places called “churches” today that have nothing to give to the people gathered to hear from the Lord, and they will not have opportunity to have their heart and mind “burn” with excitement and knowledge in such places.

Proverbs 29:18

<sup>18</sup> Where *there is* no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

1 Samuel 3:1

<sup>1</sup> And the child Samuel ministered unto the LORD before Eli. And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; *there was* no open vision.

Hosea 4:6

<sup>6</sup> My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

Amos 8:11-12

<sup>11</sup> Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD: <sup>12</sup> And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, and shall not find *it*.

Conclusion: Conclusion: HE IS RISEN!! Our faith in Christ

and His redemptive work has as its foundation the resurrection, without which we have nothing. Does that truth "burn" in our hearts like it did the two disciples on the road to Emmaus?

Jesus came to give His life on the cross, be buried in a borrowed tomb, and rise from the dead to pay our sin debt and satisfy the requirements of the Law for the payment of sin. How sad it would be to know that truth and choose to reject it - **no redemption, no hope.**

A number of years ago, in a mental institution outside Boston, a young girl known as "Little Annie" was locked in the dungeon. The dungeon was the only place, said the doctors, for those who were hopelessly insane. In Little Annie's case, they saw no hope for her, so she was consigned to a living death in that small cage which received little light and even less hope. About that time, an elderly nurse was nearing retirement. She felt there was hope for all of God's children, so she started taking her lunch into the dungeon and eating outside Little Annie's cage. She felt perhaps she should communicate some love and hope to the little girl.

In many ways, Little Annie was like an animal. On occasions, she would violently attack the person who came into her cage. At other times, she would completely ignore them. When the elderly nurse started visiting her, Little Annie gave no indication that she was even aware of her presence. One day, the elderly nurse brought some brownies to the dungeon and left them outside the cage. Little Annie gave no hint she knew they were there, but when the nurse returned the next day, the brownies were gone. From that time on, the nurse would bring brownies when she made her Thursday visit. Soon after, the doctors in the institution noticed a change was taking place. After a period of time they decided to move Little Annie upstairs. Finally, the day came when the "hopeless case" was told she could return home. But Little Annie did not wish to leave.



She chose to stay, to help others. She it was who cared for, taught, and nurtured Helen Keller, for Little Annie's name was Anne Sullivan.

—James S. Hewett, *Illustrations Unlimited* (Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc, 1988) pp. 289-290.

Without the resurrection, Anne Sullivan and Helen Keller, and those that need it the most, would have no hope.