

April 17th – 22nd
**Perspectives of the Resurrection of
Jesus Christ**

This week we will study the four accounts written by different people from different generations concerning the Resurrection.

Matthew 28:1-8, Mark 16:1-8, Luke 24:1-10, John 20:1-8

Monday April 17th - *When did the women go to the tomb and how many were there?* Matthew states Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came at dawn (28:1). Mark adds Salome and says it was early in the morning (16:1-2). Luke also says early morning and names Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary mother of James, and “other” women (24:1, 10). John says it was still dark and it was Mary Magdalene. John was probably describing the conditions when they left as they would be leaving from Bethany, as they had earlier in the week, traveling 2 miles (John 11:18), which would give the sun plenty of time to rise. Matthew and Mark do not say **only** two or three women are present. Luke names three and says “other” as well. In John, although Mary Magdalene is listed she responds to Peter, “They have taken away the Lord, and **we** do not know where they have laid him” (John 20:2).

Tuesday April 18^h - *Was the tomb already open and how many angels were there?* Mark, Luke, and John say the stone had been rolled away from the tomb before the women arrive. Matthew does not contradict this but explains *how* the stone was moved by a great earthquake and does not claim it happened as the women arrived. Matthew and Mark say one angel. Luke and John say two angels. But if you read carefully Matthew and Mark do not say **only** one angel was present. It’s also not a big deal that Mark and Luke call the angels “men” since the Bible does this in other places too (Genesis 18:1-2; Daniel 9:21).

Wednesday April 19th - *When and where did each woman see Jesus?* 5 women head to the tomb and Mary Magdalene left to alert Peter and John before seeing the angels and hearing the explanation. The women entered the tomb and an angel proclaimed, “He is risen,” and they went out to tell the disciples. Peter and John were probably not with the other disciples. John had been at the cross and Peter was nearly arrested in the courtyard. At some point they met up and were likely staying together in Jerusalem. The others were probably staying with other followers in Bethany and that is where the other women ran to share the good news. Meanwhile Peter, John, and Mary Magdalene raced to the tomb, the men entered the tomb, saw the grave clothes and left. Mary went outside and wept, then saw the angels, turned and saw Jesus. Jesus appeared to the other women when they were on their way to Bethany (Mt. 28:9).

Thursday April 20th - 17 *Three More Sunday Appearances*

Luke wrote about Clopas and a companion headed back to Emmaus and they did not recognize Jesus until the breaking of the bread (24:30-31). They ran to Jerusalem to share with the disciples, who were gathered without Thomas (John 20:19-24). When they arrive they were told by the disciples that Jesus had appeared to Peter (not sure if that took place before the two disciples saw Jesus on the road to Emmaus). As they shared exciting details about the day’s events, Jesus appears to the entire group. At first they are afraid, but he shows them the scars and ate some fish and honeycomb (Luke 24:40-43)

Friday April 21st - *Other Appearances of Jesus*

Jesus continues to appear to share and teach for 40 days (Acts 1:3). 8 days after the resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples again and this time Thomas was there (John 20:24-29). Over the next few weeks, Jesus appears to the seven disciples at the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-2). While still in Galilee, the disciples also saw Jesus on a hillside (Mt. 28:16-17). This might be the event referenced by the Apostle Paul when there were 500 people present (1 Cor. 15:6), then Jesus was seen by his brother James (1 Cor. 15:7).

Saturday April 22nd - *Wrapping Up*

This week we have tried to piece together the accounts of the resurrection of Jesus in such a way to make sense of 4 different perspectives. The purpose was to demonstrate how different information can actually be pieces of a puzzle rather than conflicting accounts. What have you learned about the resurrection story that you might not have known before? People who do not believe in the bible will not be convinced of arguments that are internal to the bible. What they will believe is the final testimony to the resurrection: Your testimony in how you live your life. Do you live in such a way that the resurrected Jesus is believable?

Look at the prayer list. Who can you pray for? Who needs a little extra help in an area where you can make a difference?

Healing Strength: Laura (friend of Sheri Lathrop’s daughter), Barb Kortege’s daughter-in-law, Linda Campbell, Judy Hadlock (Barb McCormack’s sister), Rex Townsend, Stan Ensich, Chris Osborn (Ken and Sandy Grubb’s daughter), Janet Coons (Donna McCullough’s daughter)

Homebound Members: Mary Hicks, Mary Schmidt, Jeanne Carman, Ginny Compton, Clara Ford, Caroline Loos

Our College Students: Emily Zietlow, Alexandria Meyer, Emily Crowel, Noel Wolfe

Military Personnel: Adam Walters, Joseph Roberts, Lucas Lamkin, Adam Clark

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