

Mark 16:1-8

LESSON: RESURRECTION FAITH — March 27, 2016 (EASTER)

INTRODUCTION:

Chapter 15:42-47 The Sabbath was the day of worship for the Jews. It was now the evening time (6pm). Jewish days began at 6pm and ran until 6pm the next night (from sundown to sundown) Strict Jewish law said that once the Sabbath began, no work was to be done, including the burial of the dead. Jesus died at 3pm on a Friday, the day of preparation for the Sabbath. If anything was to be done, it had to be done immediately and quickly. They only had three hours that remained for work. If Jesus' body was not removed quickly within these three hours, the fate of His body was set by the Romans and they would not care what happened to him; and no Jew could remove Him until the Sabbath was over. Joseph of Arimathaea had boldly asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. He was assisted by Nicodemus, also a member of the counsel (John 19:38-42). It normally took several days for one to die. Pilate asked his centurion if Jesus was already dead, meaning how long had He been dead. It was affirmed that Jesus had been dead for awhile. He then gave the body to Joseph. Joseph, who had been a secret disciple, would not be secret any longer. Now, everyone would know that he stepped forward making an unashamed commitment to Jesus to care for His body. They would know that he had even given his own tomb for Jesus' burial. Joseph cared for Jesus as he brought fine linen, took Jesus down from the cross, wrapped Him in the linen, and laid Him in the tomb which was carved out of a rock. Then a stone was rolled in front of the door of the tomb, and Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus witnessed where Jesus was laid.

LESSON: AN EARLY MORNING DISCOVERY Mark 16:1-5

16:1 And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. The women named above had witnessed the death and burial of Jesus and now they have come back to the tomb the next morning to anoint sweet spices over Jesus' body in which they had purchased on Saturday evening after the Sabbath (6 pm) had ended. Because there were very strict rules concerning the observance of the Sabbath law they obeyed. By Jesus being in the grave on the Sabbath He was unable to observe the laws governing the great season of the Passover and the Sabbath. He was dead. Therefore, the law and its observances had no authority over Him. What the women didn't know was that this is symbolic of the identification Believers gain in Christ. God counts the man as having died with Christ, therefore in Christ's death, Believers become dead to the law. The spices were not for embalming, but it was for anointing, as a sign of love, just as people would bring flowers to a grave today.

16:2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the <http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html>

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rising of the sun. They knew Jesus was dead, but what they didn't know was that on this first day of the week Jesus had risen. But, still very early in the morning at the rising of the sun, (Sunday) they had prepared themselves to go to the sepulcher for the specific reason to care for Jesus' body.

16:3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?— To come that early in the morning showed that they cared that much and wanted to take care of Jesus' body.

1. **Mary Magdalene** stands out as the most prominent of the women witnessing the resurrection of the Lord. Her love and devotion was very deep, for Jesus had cast out seven devils out of her Mk.16:9.
2. **Mary**, the mother of James. Some Scriptures say Joseph (Joseph), supposed to be the wife of Cleophas, and sister of Mary, (the mother of Jesus). She also could not tear herself away from the body of Jesus indicating her love and devotion for Him.
3. **Salome**, the mother of Zebedee's children that is, James and John. She wanted her sons to be great in the kingdom (sitting one on the right and one on the left). Being a mother was the human part of her. But, the spiritual part still stayed close to Jesus even when Jesus said that it wasn't His to grant. This was their last task to do to honor Jesus.

Faith is action. For those who have seen the movie "*War Room*", start writing your prayers down for your loved ones, and began to declare them, and watch God work! Well, they didn't know how they would roll the stone from the door of the tomb, and began to ask among themselves who would roll the stone away. Faith walked to the tomb.

16:4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. Aren't you amazed when you walk by faith and not by sight? Yes, to their amazement they saw with their own eyes, the stone was already rolled away. Now we find the **first proof** of Jesus' Resurrection. The stone was a huge round stone that had been lodged in the hole and sealed to the entrance, and could not easily be removed. As they were able to see that the stone was rolled back, they became witnesses to the resurrection.

16:5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. The **second proof** happened when they were able to enter the tomb. Their **third proof** of Jesus' Resurrection was that they didn't see Jesus, they only see a young man (an angel) clothed in a long white garment sitting on the right side. And the very fact that the angel was sitting, portrayed that Jesus was not there, or else he would be bowing at the foot of Jesus praising before His presence. Matthew says the angel's countenance was like lightning. The appearance of the angel startled them, and they became afraid, but it was proof that Jesus was not there.

II. AN AMAZING REVELATION Mark 16:6-8

16:6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. Therefore, to ease their fright, He admonished

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them to not be afraid, for Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified has risen. Mind you, they knew Jesus was dead, they had laid Him in the tomb, but He's not there. They were not mistaken about that. The angel said "*behold the place where they laid him.*" The point is: Jesus did arise from the dead. All evidence pointed to that. His body was not there.

16:7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. They were instructed to go tell Jesus' disciples and also to tell Peter that Jesus has gone before them into Galilee. The **fourth proof** was that God knew that Peter was crushed, despite his repentance, and it was extremely difficult for him to face the other disciples, therefore, a personal Word of encouragement came just for him. He sent an angel just for Peter for him to recognize that it was from the Lord. Further, the **(fifth) proof** of Jesus' Resurrection was hearing the angel say, "*as he said unto you.*" It was the very place Jesus had talked about. It was confirmation and a reminder of what Jesus had told them. It was evidence of his Resurrection. If we would only hold on to our beliefs, Jesus will come through.

16:8 And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid. They didn't spare a moment. They went out quickly fleeing from the tomb. They heard what the angel said, and they trembled and kept their silence for they had seen more than they could comprehend. They didn't stop to tell the man on the side of the road or even into the city, but they were given charge to tell the disciples; and Peter.

- They really thought that no one else would believe them.
- They feared others might think them crazy, so grieved that they were imagining things.
- They feared the Jewish and Roman authorities might accuse them of stealing the body of Jesus.

Many more proofs of Jesus' Resurrection continued to rise up, for He was seen by many. He promised He would rise on the third day. He gave us all these proofs to hold onto so our beliefs of Him being alive would stay strong.

SUMMARY:

Three devoted women came to the Sepulchre very early in the morning before the sun rose on the first day of the week to anoint the body of Jesus. Still wondering who was to roll the stone away, behold when they arrived they beheld that the stone had already been rolled away. They were able to enter and see an angel in a long white garment sitting on the right side and they became afraid **16:1-5**.

The angel assured them to not be afraid, for the one they were seeking, Jesus of Nazareth who was crucified, has risen. They looked for themselves that where He was laid, He's wasn't there. They were then charged by the angel to go back to tell the disciples and Peter that they were to meet Him in Galilee, as He had said to them before. They went out quickly fleeing from the Sepulchre, trembling and amazed, and said nothing to any man, for they were afraid **16:6-8**.