

The Resurrection: Luke 23:50 - 24:12 and 24:36-53 **Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008 - Skip MacMillan**

The Burial - Luke 23:50-56

Joseph – member of the Council, “good and upright man,” dissenting vote, “waiting for the kingdom of God.”

Rich, disciple of Jesus Christ, asked for Jesus’ body, “he took **it** down, wrapped **it** in linen cloth”, he buried Jesus in a “new tomb,” Nicodemus was with him (see John).

Prophecy – Isaiah 53:9 – “assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in His death”.

Friday, crucified and buried; **Saturday**, the Sabbath, they rested, all was quiet; **Sunday**, resurrection.

The Resurrection - Luke 24:1-35

First day of the week (early Sunday morning) – why we worship on Sunday.

Stoned rolled away –

“There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it” (Matt. 28:2).

Women – named: “Mary, Joanna, Mary mother of James and the others”;

“the women” were at the cross (23:49), the tomb (24:55), and the first to experience the resurrection (24:1).

Mary Magdalene –

She is the first person to see the risen Christ (John 20:14).

“Woman,” he said, “why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (Teacher).

“The woman, a sinner” (Luke 7:36-50); Christ had cast out of her seven demons (Matthew 12:45, Mark 16:9).

She, with the rest of the healed women, accompanied Him “throughout every city and village of Galilee, preaching and showing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God,” even into “Jerusalem again they accompanied Him . . .”. “They stood afar off beholding these things,” the closing agony of the crucifixion.

Angels – “why do you look for the living among the dead?” “He is not here; he has risen!”

The message from heaven is that Jesus Christ has risen.

“They (disciples) did not believe the women . . . their words seemed to them like nonsense” (24:11).

Peter –

John ran with Peter to the tomb, John 20.

Confused: They believe but are still confused.

Peter “went away wondering to himself what had happened” (Luke 24:12).

“They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead” (John 20:9).

“The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon” (Luke 24:34, 1 Corinthians 15:5-7).
The one who got out of the boat and walked on water, who claimed he would never let Jesus be taken captive and Jesus responded “get behind me satan,” the one who cut off the ear of the accuser in the garden of Gethsemane, the one who denied Christ three times – this was the one who got up and ran to the tomb while the others sat at home doing nothing.

Peter’s reasonableness and hope:

The reasonable stayed in the boat; Hope got out and walked toward Christ.
Reason doubted Christ’s resurrection; Hope believed maybe it’s true.
Reason said Jesus is dead; Hope said He might be alive.
Reason said don’t bother and sat at the house; Hope got up to run and see!
Don’t let the reasonableness hold you back but allow God’s hope to move you forward.

Two Disciples on their way to Emmaus – Luke 24:13-35.

Jesus appears to individuals and crowds of five hundred – 1 Corinthians 15:5-7.

Jesus appears to all of them and says “Peace be with you” (24:36).

Peace = the tranquil state of a soul assured of its salvation through Christ, having nothing to fear from God or this world. Fullness of blessing found in Christ, synonymous with salvation.

Questions their doubt: “Why are you so troubled?” “Why do doubts rise in your minds?”
Doubt – Thomas in John 20:24-31 (Mk 9:14-24 “I do believe, help me overcome my unbelief”).
Jesus told Thomas, “Stop doubting and believe” (John 20:27).

Jesus alleviates their doubt – Luke 24:36-43

Physically:

Look at my hands, touch me and see, I am not a ghost, I have flesh and bone; and He ate with them.
1 Corinthians 15:5-7, 1 John 1:1-4; glorified body, 1 Corinthians 15:40-44ff.

Scripturally:

I am the fulfillment of the Scriptures – “Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms” (24:44).

“He opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures” (Luke 24:45-49).

Scriptures are the foundation, the will of God, special revelation, specific revelation.
They are God’s spoken word, Christ is the Word and that Word became flesh.
“Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day”: God’s plan, purpose and design.

His Mission and Call

Preach/Proclaim: “repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations” (v. 46).

Witness: “You will be My witnesses of these things” (v. 48).
To personally experience Jesus Christ and then share that experience with others.
Before we owned our own sin, now we need to own our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Empowered by God the Spirit

"I am going to send you what My Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

"... I labor, struggling with all His energy which so powerfully works in me" (Colossians 1:29).
John 14:16 and Acts 2.

Here is what God says:

I will make you "the aroma of Christ".

"But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and through us spreads everywhere the fragrance of the knowledge of him. For we are to God the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing. To the one we are the smell of death; to the other, the fragrance of life. And who is equal to such a task?" (2 Corinthians 2:14-16).

I will cause you to reflect My glory and be transformed into My likeness.

"And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

What must God think of you?

Christ's Ascension – Luke 24:50-53

Christ ascends into heaven; confirming He is the Messiah, Son of God, Son of Man, and God incarnate.

The Disciples worship Christ: "Then they worshipped Him," they had "great joy" and "praised God" continually.

Zephaniah 3:14-17, Hebrews 12:1-2, and Philipians 2:5-10.