

Luke 24:1-9 – See, hear, and speak of the Resurrection

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Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: The resurrection of Jesus is everything to Christians. Put another way, **there is no Christianity without the resurrection**. If Christ were not resurrected, we would be the most pitiable people and our lives and worship would be totally useless. Yes, the resurrection is soooo special, we celebrate it 104X every year. The Sabbath Day was changed to celebrate the resurrection.

You will hear about Christ's blessed resurrection today.

Our headings are:

See the Lord's Resurrection

Hear of the Lord's Resurrection

Speak of the Lord's resurrection

Our goals are: **That having recognize the Lord was resurrected, and knowing what it means, you will rejoice in the Lord and announce his resurrection to the world so they too can rejoice.**

See the Lord's Resurrection

1 Now on the **first day of the week, very early in the morning**, they, and **certain other women** with them, came to the tomb bringing the **spices which they had prepared**.

1. With great love and devotion to the Lord, Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and Salome (Mark) went to Jesus' tomb to put spices on his body as part of the embalming process.

These women were fulfilling the prophecy of Solomon. The bride sought the bridegroom with spices.

Song of Solomon 6:1 THE DAUGHTERS OF JERUSALEM Where has your beloved gone, O fairest among women? Where has your beloved turned aside, **that we may seek him with you?** 2 THE SHULAMITE My beloved has gone to his garden, To the beds of spices, To feed his flock in the gardens, And to gather lilies.

These women came with urgency...early (deep dawn)...the first day after the Sabbath. They could not go there on the Sabbath.

These women had made preparations to go to Jesus' tomb – even before the Sabbath began. Lk 23:55.

These women had followed and served him wherever he traveled and they wanted to continue to do so, even after he died.

These women were courageous and fearless, going out of the city while it was still dark, without protection, to a graveyard.

2 But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb.

2. These women found the stone that had closed the tomb had been removed.

No doubt the women wondered as they walked to the cemetery who would roll the large, heavy stone away so they could get access to the Lord's body.

Even small Jewish graves had to be at least 2m x 3m, so the stone would have been large. And the women didn't know Pilate had put his seal on the tomb and had placed guards there also, **otherwise they would not have even tried to go there.**

3 Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

3. These women went in the tomb, looked, but to their surprise, they did not see Jesus.

They wondered where his body was. Who took his body? Friend or enemy? Was it destroyed, eaten by animals?

They could not understand how this could have happened. The only thing they knew for sure was that he was not there. Yes, the Lord did not want spices. He did not want this body embalmed. He was raised. The tomb was empty! He was the Holy One of God whose body did not see decay. (Psalm 16)

4. Lessons:

a. The Lord prefers love, faith, worship, and prayer rather than lesser things. Those who give money to him, thinking that would be better, don't understand the Scriptures. They are offering ignorant affections. Showing a cross in your house (lesser things) is not a substitute for love, faith, and worship. So be ready to **spring out of bed on Sunday...because you are going to praise God.** (Remember this, children.) Devotion is seen in service, not in talk! Yes, **serve the Lord in the way he desires!** God does not want ignorant affections. He did not want myrrh and aloes...he wanted obedience and adoration.

b. While the women were witnesses to the resurrection, it did not have any impact on them because they could not interpret the fact without the Word Jesus had told them. They wanted to see a dead Christ, but he was alive. **They forgot Jesus was the "Sun of Righteousness with healing in his wings."** (Malachi 4). They forgot his message that Jesus was living before Abram, and he was the Son of God, and he and the Father were one, and he was the resurrection and the source of all life. Yes, confusion can come when you don't remember the words of Scripture and interpret what you see in light of the Scripture.

c. In spite of the women's poor view, God guided them to the proof of the resurrection. God was guiding man to the resurrection from the Fall recorded in Genesis 3.

Hear of the Lord's Resurrection

4 And it happened, as they were **greatly perplexed** about this, that **behold, two men** stood by them in shining garments. 5 Then, as they were afraid and **bowed their faces to the earth**, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 "He is not here, but is risen! Remember how **He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee**, 7 "saying, 'The **Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified**, and the third day **rise again**.'"

1. These women became worried, perplexed, fearful, not really understand what they saw!

2. These women then saw 2 angels in the tomb and bowed down through great fear and reverence of these heavenly spirits.

These angels were messengers from God to confirm the resurrection, to confirm what these women were seeing, but these women had forgotten Christ's words that he would be raised up on the 3rd day.

There are 2 issues we must address here.

First, were there really 2 angels in the tomb? After all, Matthew said "an" angel spoke. Yes, there were 2, but only 1 spoke. This was not uncommon. Example: Three men appeared to Abram, but 1 spoke. This type of account is not uncommon. But why were there 2 angels? By the mouths of 2 or 3 witnesses truth is established.

Second, how could Mark and Luke say there were at least 5 women who came to the tomb, but Apostle John seems to suggest in John 20 that only Mary Magdalene was there? Mary Magdalene was the one who spoke, but others were there as well. So there is no discrepancy there.

3. The angels then rebuked the women for looking for a living Savior among dead people.

Specifically, the angels rebuked them for not remembering what the Lord had said. What did Jesus say?

Matthew 17:22-23 ... Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, **and the third day He will be raised up**. And they were exceedingly sorrowful.

The Lord's shameful and painful death, his burial, and his resurrection were necessary parts of his humiliation process...to be given over to wicked men and face the judgment that sinful man deserved.

8 And they **remembered His words**.

4. Then it dawned on the women that Christ did speak of his resurrection.

What their eyes had seen was what their ears helped them to remember and understand.

Matthew 17:22-23...Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and **they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up**...

5. Lessons:

a. Jesus is alive forever. He never, ever will die again. And he is your Savior. Because he lives you can live. You will have a resurrection! So live victoriously! Physical death is but the means of your entrance into heaven! Rejoice.

Revelation 1:18 "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

Yes, live with confidence. You cannot eternally die from Covid-19. And even if you physically die, you will be raised up too! So laugh at Covid, with all its power, as its sting has been pulled! **Death, Adam's gift to you, has been defeated!**

b. Announce with joy Christ was raised and that those who are yet spiritually dead can be raised! Only this message will give the spiritual dead life! Telling people to be good won't change them! Telling children to share what they have won't save them. Always remembering Mother's Day won't save! Tell your children of Christ's resurrection.

c. Why did God give proof Christ's resurrection? All the details of Christ's resurrection confirm the truthfulness of every word Jesus had spoken before. Details illustrate truth. You might say: We were on the bridge...it was in the moonlight...it was a cold night...there was a light drizzle...then we saw the explosion... Details confirm truth!

d. You perplex yourself with things that should be comforting when you don't know the Bible well. Yes, a **timely recollection of God's words is always useful to help with present problems in your life.** Ignorance leads to panic.

Psalms 141:5 Let the righteous strike me; It shall be a kindness. **And let him rebuke me;** It shall be as **excellent oil;** Let my head not refuse it.

e. One of the benefits of preaching is to remind you of the words of Christ. So listen. Make notes. Talk about the sermon.

Speak of the Lord's Resurrection

9 Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest.

1. Seeing and hearing of Christ's resurrection, the women hurried to tell the other disciples of it.

Matthew 28:8 So **they went out quickly from the tomb** with fear and great joy, and ran

to bring His disciples word.

Mary Magdalene, according to another Gospel, remained, and had personal contact with Jesus, but the women's faith moved them to action - passing on the truth. They ran excitedly and with fear to speak the good news.

2. But why was the resurrection first shown to women and not to men, especially since men were called to preach the Gospel?

a. The Lord honored women for their desire to serve. Yes, they were misguided, thinking the Lord was dead, but their goal was to honor him.

b. The men were cowards, even though they spent 3 ½ years with Jesus.

b. Women often have the ability to remember more details.

3. Lessons:

a. Today, having read the record of the women seeing Jesus was raised, and having the record of the angels that Jesus was raised, and having experienced the work of the risen Savior in your life, are you telling others of the resurrection? This is what your Savior wants you to do!

Young people, this pressure is much greater on you. **Your friends may laugh at your belief, but they need Christ's resurrection! If you love them, tell them.**

Revelation 1:18 "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore..."

John 14:19 ... Because I live, **you will live also.**

Women, you are an important part of this work. With excitement, **tell the world of Jesus.**

In fact, you don't have to be a preacher at all. If you've experienced the work of the resurrection, tell!

b. Speak, but also show people a living Christ in you. The way you live is the best way of showing the resurrection.

c. Ignore mocking. Without the resurrection, the Gospel means nothing! Nothing good would happen.

1Corinthians 15:13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14

And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty.

It is true it is not dangerous to speak of Christ's resurrection in Canada, but you may encounter mocking. (If you don't get funny looks, it could be you don't speak enough about Christ's resurrection.)

Conclusion:

These women loved the Lord, so they brought spices early after the Sabbath to embalm his body. **But they saw his tomb opened and empty.** They **heard from angels Jesus was raised from the dead.** ...as he said he would be. But this story of the resurrection is **not about women.** It is about Christ's love. It is about how **Christ died for you and how you died in him.** It is about how **Christ raised for you and you were raised in him.** It is about the pledge that **Christ will raise up your body at the end of the world.**

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. Let the resurrection of Jesus give you confidence in him...that whatever happens to you in life, you know he will raise you up on the last day and give you a new body. Yes, you might be poor. Yes, you might get sick and die at a young age. Yes, you might die as a child! But you will always have life in Jesus. You have that knowledge in you now! Remind yourself of that knowledge regularly. Because he lives, you can face tomorrow!

2. Let the resurrection give you zeal to tell the world of the hope they too could have. A dead or weak Christ cannot help you...or others.

3. Let the resurrection give you desire to worship him corporately and in your home!

Finally, if you don't believe Jesus was raised from the dead for sinners, then you will have to die for your own sin. But friend, if you are not a Christian, why not plead with God that he would count his Son's death, burial, and resurrection as yours so you don't have to die for your sins? Why not do it today?