

The Lord Is Risen

From Mark 16:1-7; John 20:2-18; Matthew 28:11-15; Luke 24:13-32



EARLY -- JUST OUTSIDE JERUSALEM -- JESUS OF NAZARETH IS CRUCIFIED AND BURIED. AT THE REQUEST OF THE PRIESTS AND PHARISEES, THE TOMB IS SEALED AND ROMAN SOLDIERS SET TO GUARD IT.



BY THE MORNING OF THE THIRD DAY THE EARTH TREMBLES. AN ANGEL OF THE LORD DESCENDS -- AND ROLLS THE HEAVY STONE ASIDE. TERRIFIED, THE SOLDIERS FALL TO THE GROUND. WHEN THEY CAN GET TO THEIR FEET, THEY RUSH BACK TO THE CITY.

THE SAME MORNING MARY MAGDALENE AND OTHER FRIENDS OF JESUS HURRY TO THE TOMB WITH SPICES TO ANOINT HIS BODY. ON THE WAY, THEY WORRY ABOUT HOW THEY WILL GET THE STONE ROLLED AWAY. BUT WHEN THEY REACH THE GARDEN...

THE TOMB!
IT IS OPEN!



BELIEVING THAT SOMEONE HAD FOUND JESUS' BODY, MARY RUSHES BACK TO JERUSALEM TO TELL PETER AND JOHN. BUT THE OTHERS ENTER THE TOMB TO FIND AN ANGEL SEATED THERE.



IN THE CITY PETER AND JOHN ARE SO STARTLED BY MARY'S NEWS THAT THEY RUSH BACK AHEAD OF HER. WHEN THEY REACH THE TOMB...



BY THE TIME MARY REACHES THE GARDEN THE OTHERS HAVE GONE. IN HER DAZE SHE DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE VOICE OF ONE WHO QUESTIONS HER.



SOFTLY JESUS SPEAKS HER NAME—
"MARY!" SHE TURNS—AND SEES HER
RISEN LORD.



BUT JESUS' FRIENDS ARE NOT THE ONLY
LORDS WHO ARE EXCITED ABOUT WHAT HAS
OCCURRED IN THE GARDEN. IN JERUSALEM, THE
ROMAN SOLDIERS REPORT TO THE PRIESTS
AND PHARISEES. AFRAID OF WHAT MAY HAPPEN
IF THE TRUTH IS KNOWN, THEY ACT QUICKLY.



WHILE THE SOLDIERS SPREAD
THEIR LIE, JESUS SENDS TWO OF
HIS DISCIPLES ON THE WAY TO
EMMAUS. THEY SAKE WITH HIM,
BUT THEY DO NOT KNOW WHO HE IS.



THAT EVENING AS THEY DINE IN EMMAUS, JESUS
BLESSES THE BREAD—AND WHEN HE HANDS IT
TO THEM, THEY SUDDENLY RECOGNIZE HIM.

