

The Unexpected Resurrection of Christ March 30th & 31st, 2013

John 20:1-10

In the Gospel of Matthew, we read that a story had been spread among the Jews that Jesus' disciples stole His body and claimed that He rose from the dead (*Matthew 28:13-15*). However, looking into the lives of Jesus' followers, their reaction to the empty tomb indicates that the resurrection was totally unexpected!

- ❖ Mary Magdalene, and the other women were surprised to find Jesus gone!
"When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Him." Mark 16:1
- ❖ Peter and John went to the tomb, John believed but Peter marveled!
"But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened." Luke 24:12
- ❖ Neither Peter nor John understood the fulfillment of Scripture.
"for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise from the dead." John 20:9
- ❖ The other disciples did not believe the report of the women who saw the empty tomb, and treated their report as "an idle tale"
"but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them." Luke 24:11

Peter marveled!

- ❖ Peter had experienced many miraculous events as he followed Jesus.
 - The Miracle of the large catch of fish: *Luke 5:1-11*
 - The Miracle of Jesus and Peter walking on water: *Matthew 14:22-33*
 - The Miracle of Jesus calming the storm: *Mark 4:35-41*
 - The Miracle of Jesus raising Jairus's Daughter from the dead: *Luke 8:40-56*
 - The Miracle of finding money in a fish: *Matthew 17:24-27*
- ❖ Peter knew that Jesus was the Holy One of God.
John 6:66-69 "... Simon Peter answered Him, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that You are the Holy One of God.'"
Matthew 16:13-17 "Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.'"
- ❖ Peter saw Jesus after the resurrection.
John 20:20 "When [Jesus] had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord."
- ❖ Peter proclaimed the first message of the gospel.
 *Acts 2:22-24*
Acts 2:36-41 "And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, ...'"
Acts 4:2 "[Peter and the disciples] were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead."

1 Peter 1:3

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to His great mercy, He has caused us to be born again to a
living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"*

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