

The Great Physician

Luke 24:1-12

- After the death of Jesus Luke records three responses to His last moments > **1st The Centurion V47**- he was in charge of the execution, and upon seeing the darkness, and experiencing the earthquake said, “**truly this man was The Son of God**” **Mk 15:39**, **2nd Those who came to see the spectacle V48**- they began to walk away beating their chest, **Lk 18:13** says this was an act of feeling guilty, the tax collector beat his chest asking God to have mercy on him a sinner, so these people were attracted to the execution but went away being convicted of their own sins
- **3rd The Lord’s friends V49**- they stood at a distance not knowing what to make of things, their confused, heartbroken, in disbelief, as The One Whom they thought would free the nation of Israel has Himself been delivered unto death. What do you do when things look so promising one minute and then end up disastrous the next, where do you go from there? Do you reason oh well that’s life? Do you despair and go silent until you feel better? Do you go directly to the source of our hopes and our desires The Lord? Only you can answer this question!

V1-32

- **V1** to their credit the women who were **last at the cross** were also **first to the tomb**, that means no matter how bad it was they knew that they needed to be close to Jesus. I like that because sometimes things aren’t going to work out, you will be greatly disappointed, sad, maybe even sad-mad, whatever the case the worst thing we can do is lean on our own understanding, attempt to work things out ourselves, try and twist and turn things in such a way that its agreeable to us, the best thing is to take the pain and disappointment directly to Jesus.
- So the ladies go to where they believe Jesus body is, and it’s on a Sunday as they wait until after the Sabbath before they make their way to the tomb, and on the way they begin to think of impediments that may prevent them from seeing Him > **Mk 16:3**- asking among themselves who will roll away the stone, for the religious leaders had gotten Pilate to place a large stone at the tomb to prevent anyone from taking Jesus body and declaring that He has been raised from the dead just as He said He would > **Math 27:62-66** Wow!
- This shows that the unbelieving false teachers understood that Jesus had taught that He would rise from the dead, what’s sad is those who should have believed didn’t prepare for His resurrection, but those who didn’t believe took precautions just in case He did, mankind is fickle. Another interesting thing is the religious leaders had gotten Pilate to also place a guard at the entrance, if they’d known this they wouldn’t have bothered to come at all, Praise God for the things we don’t know, as the Lord protects us sometimes by withholding information.

- **V2-8** to their surprise the stone has already been removed, going downhill two a few men could move the stone in place, but once it's been set in place in a groove at the entrance, it was almost impossible to move unless you had a whole group of men for the stone probably weighed **2000** pounds. I want you to think about this for a moment that despite the weight of the stone and it needing to be removed, the ladies come anyway believing, folks when what we want to do is for God and not ourselves we need only show up believing that He will make a way
- After they run in they are confused as to what has happened, Math 28:2-8 give us more detail as to what happened before the ladies came to the tomb and after when they found it empty. Now having looked for Jesus they find Angels, and they become afraid, Luke is the only account that tells us that there are two Angels, and what's interesting is in Mathew's account their told not to be afraid, but in Luke's account their rebuked not just for **fear** but for their **forgetfulness**.
- **V6, 8**, two things > **1st** Angels are listening and paying attention to what is going on with us, **2nd** Unbelievers should never remember mores scripture than believers **Math 27:63**. **V9-11** the first notes of hope come with the phrase "and they remembered" notice remembrance brings joy > **Math 28:8**, and joy produces excitement that can't be held down, it must come out so they run to tell the others what they had seen, and what the Angels had spoken to them.
- What Luke doesn't include but Mathew' gospel does is before the ladies meet with the others something else miraculously occurs > **Math 28:9-10**- Jesus appeared to them. Now its one thing to have Angels deputize you to go and announce the glorious news that the Lord is alive, but to see Him for yourself is on a whole another level, as they come and fall at His feet and worship Him. Notice it was when they remembered and obeyed God's Word that He came to them, if your distant from the Lord, usually what's missing is you haven't been in and following His Word
- I want you to remember how the day started, with these devoted followers coming to properly bury Jesus, now they've been commissioned to tell people that He has risen, and He is alive. The mistake we can make is that everyone is going to respond to the gospel like we have, sometimes even those who should be jumping as high as we are, are telling us hold on are you sure you should be putting your entire hope on what you think you've seen or heard, lets just be sure.
- The disciples initially don't believe the ladies, Luke says it was like the women were telling fairy tales, nonsense, that's because they were at this point walking by sight and not by faith. They saw Jesus on the cross, they knew He had been placed in a tomb, they had no faith that He was going to rise from the dead, so to them what they were hearing was absolutely impossible.
- **V12** Luke singles out Peter because in **Mk 16:7** the Angels singled Peter out, telling the ladies to go to the disciples and announce that The Lord has risen and is alive, especially to Peter. This is the grace and mercy of The Lord, He knew what a hard time Peter was having, the last time He spoke to Jesus he was telling Him how wrong He was in saying that He would deny Him.

- Now after denying the Lord and thinking how he has blown his testimony and let the Lord down, here comes this miraculous message declaring that the Lord is alive and wants us to believe and share it with others, especially Peter. This sends Peter running after the Lord, **Jn 20:3-4** says John also ran with him even outrunning Peter to the tomb, my interpretation is as they got closer to the tomb Peter became more hesitant while John became more excited to see the Lord why?
- Guilt, we remember our faults and failings keeping us in bondage, instead of the opportunity to be set free by our confession and repentance that produces forgiveness. Jesus is preparing Peter to be set free, just as He does all of us, some of us have guilt, sin, faults, that we think we will never be free of, or can never be forgiven since it happened so openly and everyone knows, Jesus has a word for us, just as He spoke it to Peter, **“that He is going before us”** he has already faced the worst that we will face death, separation from the Father, ransom for sin, and risen!