

## Mark 16 "Jesus conquers death"

**Joseph of Arimathea... asked Pilate for the body of Jesus.**

**It appears this "secret disciple" has come out from behind the scenes AND RISKS IT ALL.**

**Both Nicodemus and Joseph have kept their relationship with Jesus in the shadows.**

*a late blooming love is better than a love that doesn't bloom at all. a late blooming love is still fragrant and beautiful to God... **Better late than never!***

Dearest Saints... now is the time.. the hour is upon us to boldly proclaim life found in Jesus

**SO MANY GIVE SO LITTLE TO HIM WHO GAVE SO MUCH!**

*WE will never be able to comprehend His love... **Love that came so costly to Him and yet so freely to us.***

**Secret disciple... mutually exclusive terms!**

**Join me now as we close out the gospel of Mark... chapter 16**

**16** Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary *the mother* of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. **2** Very early in the morning, on the first *day* of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. **3** And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" **4** But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away—for it was very large. **5** And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

**6** But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. **7** But go, tell His disciples—and Peter— [Even the Angel felt Peter's pain from his denial of Jesus... let Peter know.](#) that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."

**8** So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

### Mary Magdalene Sees the Risen Lord

**9** Now when *He* rose early on the first *day* of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. **10** She went and told those who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept. **11** And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe. [Their despair was so great that the thought of such a miracle was beyond belief.](#)

### Jesus Appears to Two Disciples

**12** After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country. **13** And they went and told *it* to the rest, ***but they did not believe them either.***

### The Great Commission

**14** Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. **15** And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. **16** He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. **17** And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; **18** they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

## Christ Ascends to God's Right Hand

**19** So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. **20** And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with *them* and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

**THEY DID NOT BELIEVE!** What will take them from unbelief to belief? What would convince them beyond any doubt so they would be willing to die horrible deaths simply because of this belief.

**Josh McDowell** "Resurrection Factor" "Evidence that demands a verdict"

**Lee Strobal** "Case for Easter", for faith, for Christ, Christmas

**Both Atheists and both wanted to disprove Christianity**

**What is the empirical evidence... what are the facts? Legal historic method of proof... evidential law... cannot prove anything that happened in the past scientifically.**

**RESURRECTION, FACT OR MYTH?**

**Slides start...**

**1 Corinthians 15:17-19** *And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.*

**Precautions taken to assure his demise:** First of all let's make sure Jesus was really dead... They left no stone unturned...

1. **He endured 6 trials; 3 Roman, 3 Jewish...** this of course will go to the physical trauma the mind and body of Jesus endured
2. **Death by crucifixion (physical trauma of)** We have gone over this in detail. Designed to be the most horrible form of death and to last as long as possible.
3. **Solid Rock Tombs** No trap doors or escape hatches
4. **4 soldiers sign death warrant** independent of each other.
5. **Jewish method of burial (120lbs of spices over face)** another empirical fact speaking to the certain death of Jesus
6. **Stone probably weighed 2 tons (4 thousand pounds)** as we see in our text the ladies were like who can help us move the stone?
7. **Guards (not temple police but their very best)** politically charged nature of this peculiar crucifixion warrants **MARSOC** Marines to guard the tomb.
8. **Roman seal**

\*2 pieces of raw hide 4 clay packs death for those who break the seal

**Tiberias decreed....** if you mess with a Roman seal you will be crucified upside down until your guts fall out left on cross as an example. Tiberias didn't scare the creator of the universe!

**So now with all these historical facts... with all this evidence they looked at the two options we are left with**

There are 2 options... **1. Tomb is occupied** or **2. Tomb is empty**

## **Tomb is occupied...**

### **1. Went to the wrong tomb**

- \*Angel who said He has risen went to the wrong tomb
- \*both Mary's went to the wrong tomb (one's who buried Him)
- \*Peter and others running went to the wrong tomb
- \*Jews
- \*Sanhedren
- \*Roman soldiers who guarded it guarded the wrong tomb
- \*Joseph who owned it went to the wrong tomb

### **2. How do you explain all the appearances**

#### **1. John 20 Mary Magdalene**

#### **2. Matt. 28 Both Mary's**

#### **3. Luke 24 Road to Emmaus**

#### **4. Apostles without Thomas**

*5. Apostles with Thomas... Put my hand in you side.... MY LORD AND MY GOD*

*6. John 21:7 by the lake of Tiberas Peter and John fishing and the fire... Do you love me Peter?*

*7. Matt. 28 11 again*

*8. 1 Cor. 15 over 500 brethren saw Him.*

**In a courtroom of law eyewitnesses are critical. 525 people saw Him alive!!! 6 minutes of eyewitness testimony Over 52 hours of nonstop testimony**

Nay Sayers – it was only a **SPIRITUAL RESURRECTION** Thomas touched Him He ate

-- **HALLUCINATIONS** only a certain kind of people... never more than 2

### 3. Just produce the body and an end is put to this mess

All of these ignore the Bribe found in Matt. 28. Why if the body is still there?

***Matt 28:11** Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. 12 When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, **13 saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.'** 14 And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure." 15 So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.*

**how would they know it was the disciples if sleeping?**

## **Tomb is empty...**

### 1. Disciples stole the body

-- Consider their state of mind **Scared... confused... ran off hiding... they were freaked out and never got together and formed a plan**

-- Get past the Roman guards  
**18 things they were put to death for... flawless att. to duty Get past Rambo**

- How did they move a 4 thousand pound stone?
- They were willing to die horrible deaths for a lie

**Matthew** suffered martyrdom in Ethiopia, **killed by a sword wound**.

**Mark** died in Alexandria, Egypt, after being **dragged by horses through the streets until he was dead**.

**Luke** was hanged in Greece as a result of his tremendous preaching to the lost.

**James the Just**, the leader of the church in Jerusalem, was thrown over a hundred feet down from the southeast pinnacle of the Temple when he refused to deny his faith in Christ. When they discovered that he survived the fall, his enemies beat James to death with a fuller's club. This was the same pinnacle where Satan had taken Jesus during the Temptation.

**Bartholomew**, also known as Nathaniel, was a missionary to Asia. He witnessed to our Lord in present day Turkey. Bartholomew was martyred for his preaching in Armenia when he was flayed to death by a whip.

**Andrew was crucified on an x-shaped cross** in Patras, Greece. After being whipped severely by seven soldiers they tied his body to the cross with cords to prolong his agony. His followers reported that, when he was led toward the cross, Andrew saluted it in these words: "I have long desired and expected this happy hour. The cross has been consecrated by the body of Christ hanging on it." He continued to

preach to his tormentors for two days until he expired.

**The apostle Thomas was stabbed** with a spear in India during one of his missionary trips to establish the church in the subcontinent.

**Jude, the brother of Jesus,** was killed with arrows when he refused to deny his faith in Christ.

**Willing to die horrible deaths for a lie... In the first 200 years of the church... 6 million Christians gave their lives for the their belief that Jesus was the Messiah, Savior of the world, the only way by which man must be saved... because they knew He had risen from the dead!!!**

## **2. Roman authorities stole it**

- produce it and Christianity is over
- absolutely no reason to do so

## **3. Swoon theory (created because they knew logic dictated an empty tomb)**

## **4. Passover plot All a part of Jesus' plan**

**Romans 1:22 "Professing to be wise they became fools"**

**\*\*\*5. Ding, ding ding the real reason the tomb is empty. Jesus rose from the dead just like He said He would.**

**I give my life to honor this!**