

## 6 THE EMPTY TOMB

### 6.1 HOLY SPIRIT RAISED JESUS FROM DEATH TO LIFE

Different responses have different consequences

NOW IS NOT A TIME TO CRY BUT REJOICE.

It is written: Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, they have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him! So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb.

Both were running, but the other disciple out ran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head.

The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen.

Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) (John 20:1-9 NIV)

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades. (Revelation 1:17-18)

[ ] Do you know Mary was crying because she did not understand the Word of God?

[ ] Do you believe the power of the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from death to life and His body will never die again?

### 6.2 JESUS APPEARS TO MARY MAGDALENE

It is written: Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him."

At this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

"Woman," he said, "why are you crying?"

Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said,

"Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned towards him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: "I have seen the Lord!" And she told them that he had said these things to her.  
(John 20:10-18 NIV)

[ ] Do you believe that the hope of the risen Christ is that His children will rise from death to eternal life?

[ ] Do you see the secret revealed after the resurrection?

### 6.3 JESUS APPEARS TO HIS DISCIPLES

It is written: On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again, Jesus said, "Peace be with you!"

As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." (John 20:19-23 NIV)

[ ] Do you fear the world?

[ ] Do you fear the Lord?

[ ] Do you hold a bitter root in your heart?

#### 6.4 JESUS APPEARS TO THOMAS

It is written: Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

A week later his disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:24-31 NIV)

[ ] Some question to mock; others question to believe. God searches the hearts and minds of the people, knows a person's intention, and answers accordingly. Do you question to believe?

#### 6.5 WHO ARE YOU LIKE

- Let the Spirit reveal your heart. Meet the living God today. Of the people in John 20, whom are you most alike?
- Have you met the Risen Christ or is this just a story?
- Do you know that the best and the most valuable surprises are stored in the Word of God?
- What have you found in the Word?
- Do you know how to tell if your thoughts are from God or from the gods of this world?

- Do you know the consequence of following the wrong path?

## 6.6 WORD OF GOD AND JESUS CHRIST

It is written: I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy loving kindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name. (Psalm 138:2)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:1-5 NASB)

Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.

Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.” (John 6:53-58)

“I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing. “If anyone does not abide in Me, he is thrown away as a branch and dries up; and they gather them, and cast them into the fire and they are burned. “

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

“My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. “

Just as the Father has loved Me, I have also loved you; abide in My love. “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.

“These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and *that* your joy may be made full. (john 15:5-11)

[ ] Do you read the Word of God?

[ ] Do you see the Word of God?

[ ] Do you eat the Word of God?

[ ] Do you drink the blood of Christ? Do you know what is that and how?

[ ] Do you know how to drink and eat the Word?

[ ] Do you know that to disobey is an act against God?

[ ] Do you know what the consequence of disobedience will bring?