

## 48—The Empty Tomb

Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-8

1. Take a moment to review and consider why a few women come to the tomb on the first day of the week. Why was Jesus hurriedly buried and what did the women plan to do after the Sabbath (Luke 23:54-56; John 19:41-42; cp. Deuteronomy 21:22-23)?



2. What were some of the actions of the women who came to the tomb which would indicate they did not expect to come to an empty tomb (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1-3; Luke 24:1; John 20:1)?

3. According to Matthew, how is the large stone rolled away from the tomb and what is the reaction of the guards to this event (Matthew 28:2-4; cp. Mark 16:4; Luke 24:2)?

4. As the women look into the tomb, what do they discover (Luke 24:3)? Who informs them Jesus has risen (Matthew 28:5-6; Mark 16:5-6; Luke 24:4-6)?

5. As you compare the accounts about the empty tomb are there any differences in the details? How can those be reconciled? Which fact is the one which primarily matters?

6. What statement Jesus had previously made does the angel remind these first witnesses of outside of the tomb (Luke 24:7-8; cp. Luke 9:44; 11:29-30)?

7. Who receives the first commission to speak to others about the empty tomb in Mark 16:7? Who, specifically, are they to tell and where does Jesus plan to meet them (Matthew 28:7; Mark 16:7-8)?

8. Looking at John's account, what two disciples are told first about the empty tomb (John 20:2)?

9. Do these two disciples just take the women's word for it, or do they go and examine the evidence for themselves (John 20:3-7)? What do they find in their examination?

10. What was the result, for John, when he took the time to examine the empty tomb (John 20:8)?