

HEAVEN AVAILABLE

John 19:38-42, 20:1

CONSIDER THE EMPTY TOMB

John 20:1 – 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.

Evaluate the events on the opposite side of this page.

Jesus' body: Still looking

MEET THE RISEN CHRIST

John 20:15-16

He said, "Woman, why are you crying: Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking it 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 toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus' resurrection: Still believing

LIVE THE POWER

Ephesians 1:18-21 – I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his *incomparably great power* for us who believe. That *power* is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he *raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand* in the heavenly realms....

John 20:31 – But these (things) 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.

Jesus' life: Still transforming

CAR TALK:

How did you move in your understanding to accepting the fact of an empty tomb to trust in the risen Christ?

What resurrection power have you experienced from Ephesians 1:19-21?

EVENTS OF THE RESURRECTION TO CONSIDER

- Roman tomb guards see the evidence and give their report to the religious leaders verifying the empty tomb. Matthew 28:11
- Jewish religious leaders bribe the guards to give a false report and save the guards lives and the Jewish leaders' reputations. Matthew 28:12-15
- Women arriving to anoint Jesus' corpse early Sunday morning, meet the risen Jesus. Matthew 28:8-9
- John and Peter witness the empty grave clothes. If Jesus body was stolen, why would the thieves first unwrap him from his grave clothes? John 20:6-7
- Jesus appears to Mary of Magdala, to Peter, to two disciples walking, to ten disciples in the Upper Room, to eleven disciples in the Upper Room, and to 500 at once. All of whom were still living when the report was published, and any of them could have refuted the report if it were untrue. 1 Corinthians 15:6
- Jesus eats fish and bread and allows his disciples to touch him verifying he is not just a spirit of their hallucinations. Luke 24:39-43
- Jesus' resurrection is totally unexpected and doubted by disciples at first. While still uncertain they all cower in fear and hiding. Yet they offer their lives in the end to proclaim it. If they knew the resurrection was a lie or gossip, why die for it? Acts 4:20