

June 26–July 2
Matthew 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20–21
“He Is Risen”



The Empty Tomb

Mark 16:1-4

From information from all four gospels, how many women went to help with the burial preparations?

Matthew:

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

Mark:

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.

Luke:

It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles

John:

The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

The Empty Tomb

Luke 24:3-7

Aside from stating that Jesus had risen, what do the angles teach the women?

Gordon B. Hinckley

"Here was the greatest miracle of human history. Earlier he had told them, 'I am the resurrection and the life.' But they had not understood. Now they knew. He had died in misery and pain and loneliness. Now, on the third day, he arose in power and beauty and life, 'the firstfruits of them that slept,'

“On Calvary He was the dying Jesus. From the tomb He emerged the Living Christ. The empty tomb now became the testimony of His divinity, the assurance of eternal life, the answer to Job’s unanswered question: 'If a man die, shall he live again?'.” ("The Symbol of Our Faith", Ensign, April 2005)

The Empty Tomb

Matt 28:7-10

The Empty Tomb

Luke 24:9-11

Why do you think the apostles didn't accept the testimony of the women?

James E. Faust

“Perhaps the Apostles should not be unduly criticized for not believing that Jesus, having been crucified and buried in a tomb, had come back to earth as a glorified being. In all human experience, this had never happened before. It was completely unprecedented... Jesus... became a resurrected being. He would never die again. So it was that to the Apostles the story of Mary Magdalene and the other women who witnessed the Resurrection ‘seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.’” (CR, Oct. 1988)

The Empty Tomb

John 20:1-10

What reaction did John have when he saw the burial linen?

Bruce R. McConkie

“Together [Peter and John] view the grave-clothes-linen strips that have not been unwrapped, but through which a resurrected body has passed. And then, upon John... the reality dawns first. It is true! They had not known before; now they do. It is the third day! Christ is risen! ‘Death is swallowed up in victory’ (1 Cor 15:54).”
(Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 1:842)

The Empty Tomb

John 20:11-18

Why do you think Jesus chose Mary Magdalen and the other women to be the first witness and testifiers of His resurrection?

Why do you think Mary Magdalene was admonished not to touch Jesus?

Melvin Hammond

“In a voice tinctured with pure love and the sweetest tenderness, he simply uttered one word, ‘Mary.’ There was no mistaking the voice; it was Jesus Christ. And thrilled beyond any comprehension, the dear woman could only say, ‘Rabboni,’ which means Master.

“There He stood—alive! Raised from the dead! Never to die again! His perfect body forever united with the spirit. The eternal Christ!

“To the credit of gentle, loving women everywhere, our Redeemer chose as the first mortal witness of His resurrection from the dead a woman, Mary Magdalene.” (CR, April 1990)

Bruce R. McConkie

"The King James Version quotes Jesus as saying 'Touch me not.' The Joseph Smith Translation reads 'Hold me not.' Various translations from the Greek render the passage as 'Do not cling to me.'... There is valid reason for supposing that the thought conveyed to Mary by the Risen Lord was to this effect: 'You cannot hold me here, for I am going to ascend to my Father.'" (The Mortal Messiah, 4:264)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Luke 24:13-24

What were the disciples discussing?

What were they confused about?

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Luke 24:25-32

What did Jesus teach these two disciples?

Loren C. Dunn

“Two of the disciples were walking along the road to a village called Emmaus. The Savior himself came and walked and talked with them, but they did ‘not know him’ until right at the very end when their eyes were opened and they knew him. Verse 32 says: ‘And they said one to another, did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?’

“With all the logic and outward evidences of the truthfulness of the gospel, it still comes down to the witness of the Spirit.

“‘Did not our heart burn within us?’ is as applicable today to a person seeking the gospel of Jesus Christ as it was during the time of Christ.” (CR, April 1977)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Luke 24:36-48

What did Jesus teach His apostles?

What were the apostles commanded to do?

LeGrand Richards

“[Jesus] realized that they did not comprehend what he had been trying to teach them, so he... commencing with Moses and the prophets, he showed them how that in all things the prophets had testified of him. There isn't time to consider those promises and prophecies this afternoon, but they prophesied even of the casting of lots for his clothing at the time of his crucifixion.

“Peter then tells us that he opened their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures.” (CR, April 1971)

Bruce R. McConkie

"All this was done to show that Jesus had come forth from the tomb with a tangible body. It was the Lord's way of giving to Peter and his associates a witness of the truth and divinity of his divine Sonship. If he rose from the dead, he was the Son of God; if he was the Son of God, then the gospel of salvation they were proclaiming was true; and so their obligation was to establish in the minds of men that Jesus rose from the dead. They then had to bear a personal witness."

("Upon Judea's Plains," Ensign, July 1973)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

John 20:26-29

Why do you think that we often single out Thomas as the one who doubted?

James E. Faust

“Said President David O. McKay of this experience: ‘... What was it that suddenly changed these disciples to confident, fearless, heroic preachers of the gospel of Jesus Christ? It was the revelation that Christ had risen from the grave.’ ...

“Like the Apostles of old, this knowledge and belief should transform all of us to be confident, settled, unafraid, and at peace in our lives as followers of the divine Christ. It should help us carry all burdens, bear any sorrows, and also fully savor all joys and happiness that can be found in this life.” (CR, Oct. 1988)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

John 21:14-17

What lesson did Jesus teach Peter and the other apostles to prepare them for their ministry?

Jeffrey R. Holland

"Jesus responded,... perhaps saying something like: 'Then Peter, why are you here?... Isn't it obvious now that if I want fish, I can get fish? What I need, Peter, are disciples—and I need them forever. I need someone to feed my sheep and save my lambs. I need someone to preach my gospel and defend my faith. I need someone who loves me, truly, truly loves me, and loves what our Father in Heaven has commissioned me to do.... So, Peter, I am asking you to leave all this and to go teach and testify, labor and serve loyally until the day in which they will do to you exactly what they did to me.'" (CR, Oct. 2012)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Bruce R. McConkie

"Of all the recorded appearances of the risen Christ to his disciples in Palestine, this one is paramount; and yet of it the present Bible preserves only a most fragmentary account.... It is likely the occasion of which, as Paul wrote later, 'he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once' (1 Cor. 15:6)." (Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 1:866)

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Matt 28:16-20

What was Jesus' final message to His apostles and disciples?

Howard W. Hunter

“The emphasis is on the words teach and baptize. Following this scriptural admonition, missionaries of the Church, both young and old, are in the world teaching the principle of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and the other principles of the gospel to all who will hear. This is according to the pattern established by the Master himself... They went forth and bore witness of his divinity in those days, over 1,900 years ago, and devoted ambassadors of today bear the same witness as they go into the world.” (CR, April 1975)

Next Week:

July 3–9

Acts 1–5

“Ye Shall Be Witnesses unto Me”

