

is drawn between the righteous and the wicked. During the era between Malachi and the birth of Christ, Jewish thinkers were busy with guesswork and theories about the life after death. The Pharisees taught a belief in the resurrection of the dead, while the Sadducees were unconvinced. — — By the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and by the teaching of His apostles, the resurrection was soon brought to light, at length, through the gospel.

The resurrection was from the first put in the forefront of Christian teaching (Acts 1:22; 4:2,33; 17:18; 24:15; 26:8; Romans 6:5; 8:11; I Corinthians 15:13-19; Ephesians 2:6; Colossians 2:12; 3:1; II Peter 1:11; and I John 3:2). The Christian doctrine includes not only the immortality of the soul, but the resurrection of the whole man: body, soul and spirit.

PETER AND JOHN COME TO THE TOMB (John 20:2-10)

When Peter and John heard the news from Mary that the Lord was missing from the tomb, they went forth immediately and ran to the place of Jesus' burial. John (called the other disciple in His own writings), outran Peter and found the stone rolled away.

1. When John stooped down and looked in, what did he find? (John 20:5) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Next, went Peter inside. What did he find? (John 20:6,7) \_\_\_\_\_

## FORTY THIRD STUDY

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THE RESURRECTION VICTORIOUS  
WOMEN AT THE SEPLUCHER (Matthew 28:1-4;  
Mark 16:1-2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1a)

Very early in the morning, and yet it was still dark, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (and possibly others) to see the sepulcher. It would seem likely that this is the same visit as that described in John 20:1, where Mary Magdalene alone is mentioned.

The Jewish day began at sundown in the evening. Sometime after that hour, as the first day of the week (Sunday) began, Jesus was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father (Romans 6:4).

It was not necessary to roll the stone away for Jesus to rise, for He appeared and disappeared through closed doors after His resurrection.

1. What phenomenal events took place as described in Matthew 28:2-4 ? \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why do you think it was so important for the stone to be rolled back? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

There had been an earthquake at the time of Jesus' crucifixion (Matthew 27:51) ; and now we have here another earthquake accompanying His Resur-

rection. This was the second one in three days.

3. Describe the angel in Matthew 28:3. \_\_\_\_\_

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He shone with great brilliance; and out of fear the guards fell prostrate, just as the men of evil fell to the ground when they came to arrest Jesus. Now they fall at the angel's appearance.

When Jesus comes at His second advent, there will be another great earthquake as He puts His feet down on the Mount of Olives, and the Mount of Olives is rent in two.

*Zechariah 14:4 - And His feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.*

This event will reveal a valley from the Dead Sea to the Mediterranean. This vision of Zechariah parallels the prophetic visions of Joel 3:11; Jude 14; and Revelation 11-14.

ANGELIC TESTIMONY (Matthew 28:5-8; Mark 16:5-8; Luke 24:4-8)

Mary Magdalene, being the leader of the women, just as Peter was among the disciples, went ahead of the other women and arriving there before them, saw that the stone was moved. ---They had prepared spices for His burial.

1. The angel appeared and said unto the women (Mark the correct statements by the angels found in Matthew 28:5-7):

- (a) "Fear not ye, for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified."
- (b) "He is not here: for He is risen, as He said."
- (c) "Come see the place where the Lord lay."
- (d) "Go quickly, and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead; and, behold He goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see Him: lo, I have told you."
- (e) "You have to hurry to be first in line."
- (f) All of the above.
- (g) All but one of the above.

These women apparently met other women, including Joanna, and returned once more to the tomb. Again they entered the open sepulcher, and two men appeared unto them in shining garments. These angels repeated the message of the previous one and reminded the women of Christ's own prophecy that the third day He would rise again. — — Then they remembered His words.

In the earlier stages of Old Testament revelation there was no clear belief in a life after death. It was in this world that men hoped to receive their reward for right conduct. Gradually there grew up among the Jews a belief in Sheol, the place of the dead (Isaiah 14:9), but it was regarded as a dim, joyless region, in which a man is further away from God than here in this life, and where apparently no distinction