

## EASTER LESSON, LUKE 23:50—24:12, HE IS RISEN!

**LUKE 23:50-54.** Joseph, of Arimathea, was a secret admirer of Jesus and a member of the Council ([the Sanhedrin, a governing body of the Jews, consisting of the Pharisees and the Sadducees](#)). He did not agree with the verdict of the Council and goes boldly to Pilate requesting and receiving the privilege of burying the body of Jesus. It is near dusk on Thursday, the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the month. This is the day to kill the Passover lamb and make preparations to celebrate the Passover which begins at sunset. At sunset, it becomes the **15<sup>th</sup> day** of the month and the beginning of the **Feast of Unleavened Bread**, a seven-day feast with the first day a holy convocation (a high Sabbath) when no customary work is done (Leviticus 23:6-7). Therefore, this high Sabbath falls on Friday (the lamb is separated on Sunday, the 10<sup>th</sup> and sacrificed before sundown on the 14<sup>th</sup>, which would be Thursday. Friday is Passover and Unleavened Bread). Saturday will be the second Sabbath in this week. ([I know most Christians teach that Jesus was crucified on Friday, but to me, it has to be Thursday. If we were meeting face to face, we could discuss this for a better explanation](#)). It just so happens that this year (2020), the Jewish Passover happens on Thursday, just as it did when Jesus died.

Luke 23 ends with the women watching the body of Jesus being placed in the tomb.

**LUKE 24:1-2.** *Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulcher, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher.* These women are those who watched Jesus die on the cross. Some other concerned women came with them to properly prepare the body with spices and oils. The women did not know how they were going to roll away the stone that sealed the tomb, but they came prepared, believing they would find a way. When they arrived at the tomb, they saw that the stone had already been removed.

**LUKE 24:3-5.** *And they entered in and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shinning garments: And as they were afraid and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?* The women went into the

tomb expecting to find the body, but the tomb was empty except for the linen wrappings. You can imagine how perplexed they must have been. It was obvious that the body had been there, but now it was gone! Suddenly two angels, appearing as men, stood beside them and asked why they were looking for a living person in a tomb for the dead.

**LUKE 24:6-8. *He is not here, but is risen; remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again, and they remembered his words.*** When reminded, the women remembered that Jesus, on several occasions, spoke about his death and resurrection.

**LUKE 24:9-10. *And they returned from the sepulcher, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. 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.*** What a message these women had to tell! Think how excited they were. I imagine when they were telling of their experience at the tomb, they were so excited that they were out of breath and talking so fast it was hard to understand them. Notice, in these verses, how the eleven are now called Apostles.

**LUKE 24:11-12. *And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not. Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulcher; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.*** I can understand the confusion with the excited women trying to tell what happened to the eleven men. Their story did not make sense, but Peter sensed something was odd and he decided to check it out. It says he ran to the sepulcher. In John 20:3-6, we learn that John ran with Peter. John, being younger, outran Peter and got there first. However, John waited outside the tomb and Peter went in first.

That is the end of the printed lesson, but to get the full story of the resurrection of Christ you should continue reading the rest of the 24<sup>th</sup> chapter of Luke. It is about the experience of two men on the road to Emmaus, Jesus appearing to the disciples, and the ascension into heaven.

What I get from this lesson: The death, burial, resurrection, and ascension are all prophesied in the Old Testament. ([There are 44 definite prophecies of Christ in the Old Testament that are fulfilled in the New Testament](#))

This lesson is the fulfillment of many of those prophecies. They are fulfilled exactly as prophesied. If you can't believe the bible is true, your heart is harder than iron. Over five-hundred people saw Jesus alive after the crucifixion. The evidence of Jesus's resurrection is overwhelming, and the surest thing in the world is that Jesus is coming again! Are you prepared?

**HALLELUJAH, HE IS RISEN!**

Next Week: Back to Romans 8:12-25, Secured.

Dear God, our heavenly Father, thank you for the resurrection of Jesus and the fact that he is on your right-hand making intercession for us. As we meditate upon the death and resurrection of Jesus, help us to humble ourselves before you as we offer our praise and worship, for you are worthy. We have faith in your promises that you will supply us with all our needs, you will protect us from evil, guard us from the devil's fiery darts, and you will be with us always. Father, I pray for all who read this that you will keep the corona virus away from them, that you will comfort and strengthen them. Not that we should glory, but that you might be glorified. I thank you for what you have performed in our congregation and Lord I pray that you might have mercy on all those that have been exposed to this virus all over the world. Dear God, I pray for the leaders of the various countries that you would give them wisdom and courage to make the proper decisions for their country and its people. Lord, help us to humbly examine ourselves, to repent and pray for your help. Give us the faith to trust you to do what is right. Lord, whatever you do, I know it will be your will for us all. Thank you for the privilege of praying to you. In the name of your precious Son, Jesus I pray and may you receive all the glory and honor. Amen.