

JESUS IS THE ONE WHO ROSE

John 20:1-18

SUPER SUNDAY

- Mary Magdalene comes to the tomb and finds that the stone has been rolled away.
- She runs to get Peter and John who run to the empty tomb and find the cloth folded up.
- Mary remains at the tomb weeping and is confronted by two angels and then Jesus.
- When He calls her by name she realized who He is.

AN EMPTY TOMB

JOHN 20:1-10

MARY MAGDALENE

- John focuses only on Mary Magdalene, but we know from Matthew's account she was not alone.
- Why the difference in the gospel accounts?
- There could have been two trips by the women to the tomb or they have become separated.
- Why did she come to the tomb?
- There was a need for additional spices for burial.

PETER AND JOHN

- (vs. 3-5) This passage talks a lot about running. Mary runs to the disciples, and they run to the tomb.
- In first century Palestinian culture, men do not run.
- Mary is convinced that someone has taken the body of Jesus. Peter thinks it is nonsense.
- This shows that they had no expectation that Jesus was going to rise from the grave.

BURIAL CLOTH

- (vs. 6-7) John gets to the tomb first (no doubt because he was younger) and looked into the tomb.
- Peter arrives and plunges into the darkness.
- They see the burial cloth folded up in a place by itself. This was obviously an intentional act, and is the reason that John believes immediately.
- Peter gives a description of these events later in the home of Cornelius (Acts 10:39-43).

PETER AND JOHN

- Why did the linen clothes cause John to believe?
- First, the linen clothes were placed on the slab folded but there was no body. This did not look like the work of grave robbers or the authorities.
- Second, the valuable spices were still there with the linen clothes. Grave robbers would not leave behind expensive wrappings or spices.
- John then remembers all the teachings of Jesus.

PETER AND JOHN

- (vs. 8-9) At this point, John does acknowledge that he and the disciples still did not understand the Scripture that Jesus must rise from the dead.
- What Scripture did John have in mind?
- Probably Isaiah 53:10-12 but also he might have also been thinking of Psalm 16:10.
- Only now did the significance of those verses dawn on him and later on the disciples.

HEADED BACK HOME

- (vs. 10) The disciples head back home confused.
- They were witnesses of the resurrection, and that phrase is used continually in the book of Acts. We find it in Acts 1:8; 2:32; 3:15; 5:32; 10:39.
- But as we will now see, the primary witness was Mary and not Peter or John.
- John offers this loving account of the first appearance of our Lord to Mary (the first witness).

NO SOULS?



The screenshot shows the homepage of the website "FIRST THINGS". The header is green with the site's name in white serif font. To the left of the name are icons for a tablet, smartphone, and laptop, with the text "FIRST THINGS ON YOUR TABLET & MOBILE" below them. To the right of the name are links for "LOGIN / SIGN" and social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and Google+. Below the header is a white navigation bar with links: "LATEST ISSUE", "WEB EXCLUSIVES", "BLOGS", "EVENTS", "DONATE", "SUBSCRIBE", "AUTHORS", "STORE", and "ABOUT". The main content area features a large image of four mannequins in a pond, wearing swim caps and holding a table with various items. Overlaid on this image is the title "THE MYTH OF SOULLESS WOMEN" in large white serif font, followed by the author "by Michael Nolan" and the date "April 1997". In the bottom right corner, a white box contains the text "AMERICA'S MOST INFLUENTIAL JOURNAL OF". At the bottom left, a large drop cap "I" begins a quote from T. S. Eliot.

LOGIN / SIGN

FIRST THINGS

FIRST THINGS ON YOUR
TABLET & MOBILE

LATEST ISSUE WEB EXCLUSIVES BLOGS EVENTS DONATE SUBSCRIBE AUTHORS STORE ABOUT

THE MYTH OF SOULLESS WOMEN

by Michael Nolan
April 1997

AMERICA'S MOST
INFLUENTIAL
JOURNAL OF

I osh Billings remarked profoundly that "the trouble with people is not that they don't know but that they know so much as ain't so." There are those who know John Chrysostom said that "the

A LIVING LORD

JOHN 20:11-18

PRIMARY WITNESS

- Mary is weeping because of the loss of a dear friend.
- She had been cured of demon possession (Luke 8:2) and was also a financial supporter of Jesus.
- Don't confuse her with the prostitute in Luke 7 or with the Mary who is the sister of Martha and Lazarus.
- Her grief is so great, she is looking at the tomb and not at the angels or Jesus.

ANGELS

- (vs. 12-13) Notice that how angels appear at every important event in the Bible and the life of Jesus.
- Angels at the birth of Jesus (Luke 1:11,26).
- Angels at the ascension of Jesus (Acts 1:11).
- Angels at the announcement of the Holy City (Revelation 22:8-9).
- She does not recognize them as angels.

APPEARANCE OF JESUS

- (vs. 14-16) Mary does notice that someone is standing there, but does not know it is Jesus.
- Her eyes were filled with tears, but also she did not expect to see Jesus.
- When He speaks her name, her tragedy turns to triumph.
- Remember that Jesus said that “his sheep know his voice” (John 10:4).

RISEN CHRIST

- (vs. 17-18) Jesus says she is not to cling to him.
- This was a statement connected to His ascension.
- “There must be no more kissing of His feet, but homage of a sterner, deeper sort; there must be no more sitting at table with Him, and filling the mind with His words, until they sit down with Him in the Father’s presence.”
- She announces to the disciples she has seen the Lord.

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

EYEWITNESSES

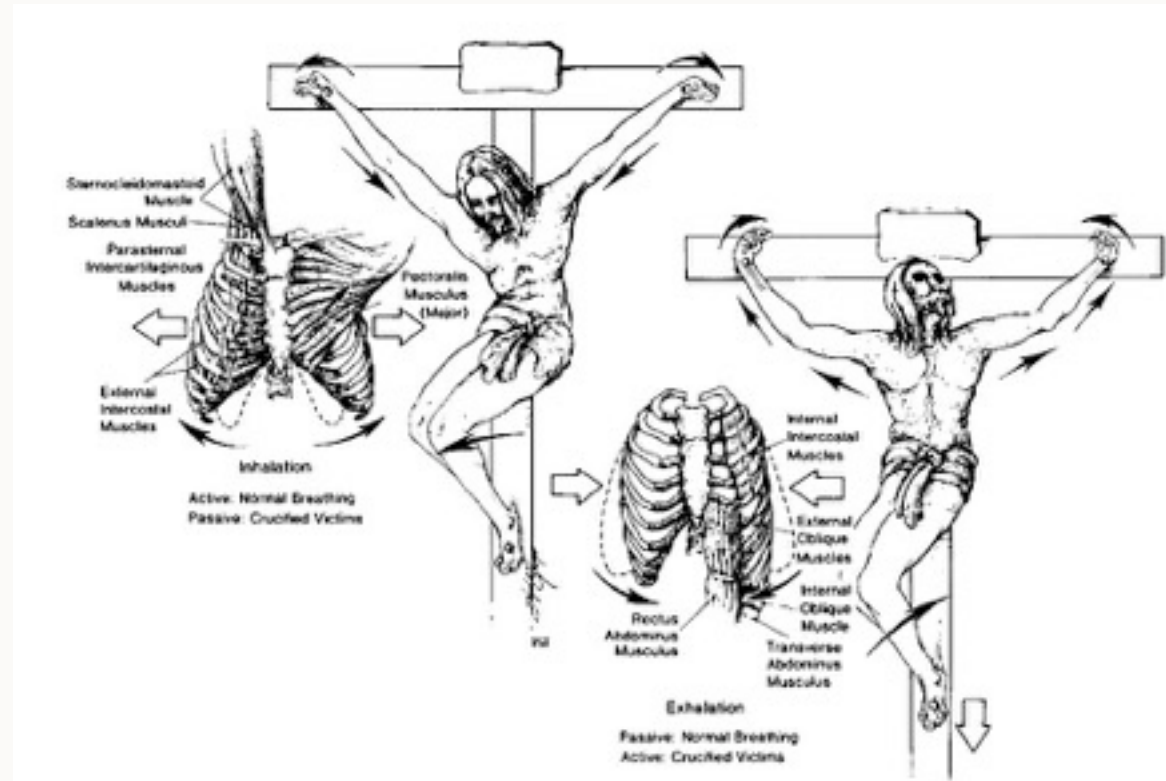
- God intended for the resurrection to be known and believed through eyewitnesses.
- That doesn't rule out the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives in opening our eyes.
- But God works through eyewitnesses.
- John is a key eyewitness of these events and writes his gospel as an eyewitness.

FACTS OF CRUCIFIXION

- We know about the methods used in crucifixion from historical accounts.
- But we also know about it from archaeological finds.
- Bones preserved of man with iron nail driven through both heels and still lodged in the heel bone of one foot.



FACTS OF CRUCIFIXION



R. Lumpkin, "The physical suffering of Christ," *J. Med. Assoc. Ala.* (1978) 8-10,47.

William Edwards, Wesley Gabel, and Floyd Hosmer, "On the Physical Death of Jesus Christ." *JAMA* (1986) 1455-1463.

FACTS OF CRUCIFIXION

- Jesus was whipped, beaten, crowned with thorns, crucified, and speared.
- He was confirmed dead by a Roman centurion (Mark 15:44-45).



FACTS OF CRUCIFIXION

- Testimony of blood and water coming from Jesus' pierced side (John 19:34-35).
- "This is evidence of massive clotting of blood in the main arteries, and is...strong medical proof of death." (Michael Green)



FACTS OF RESURRECTION

- Once crucifixion was complete and the body of Jesus was verified as dead by the Roman guards, his body was given to Joseph of Arimathea.
- Roman guards sealed the tomb and stood guard over the entrance to the tomb.
- The tomb was empty.



FACTS OF RESURRECTION

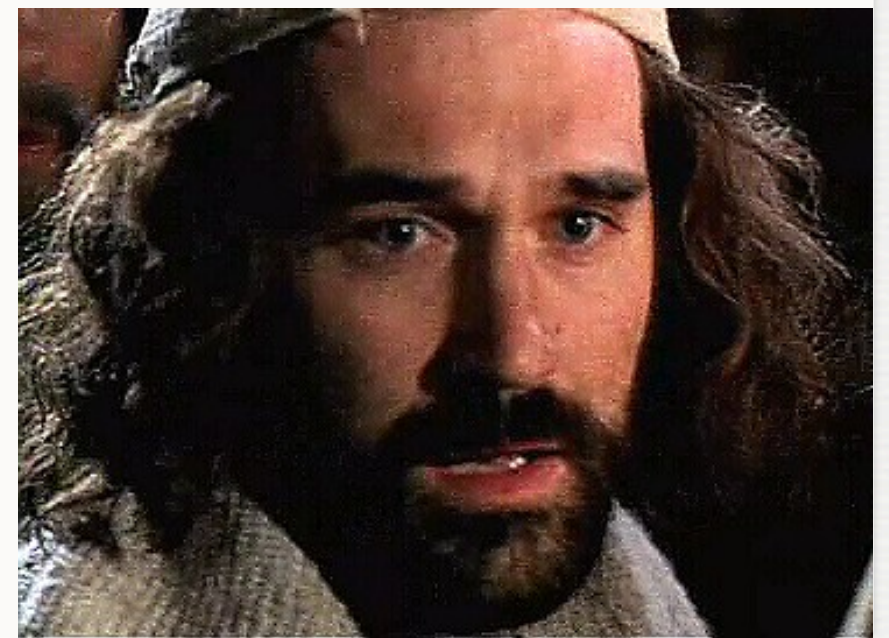
1. Mary Magdalene (Mark 16; John 20).
2. Group of women (Matthew 28; Luke 24)
3. Apostle Peter (Luke 24)
4. Disciples on road to Emmaus (Mark 16)
5. Ten apostles (Luke 24; John 20)

FACTS OF RESURRECTION

6. To all eleven disciples later (John 20)
7. Disciples on Sea of Galilee (John 21)
8. More than 500 in Galilee (Matthew 28)
9. To James (1 Corinthians 15)
10. Apostles on Mount of Olives (Luke 24; Acts 1)

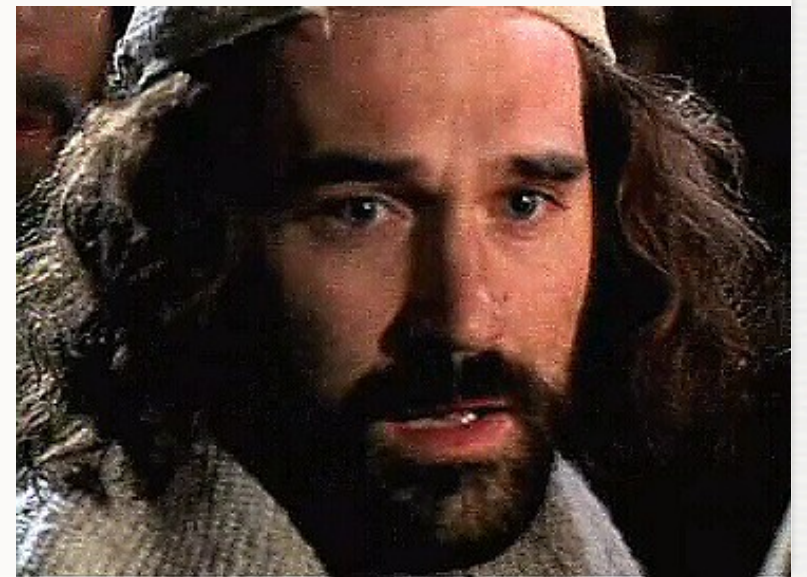
BODY SNATCHERS

- One of the earliest theories to explain the empty tomb was that the disciples stole the body (Matthew 28:11-15).
- Augustine - “If [the guards] were awake, why should they suffer the body to be taken away? If asleep, how could they know that the disciples took it?”



BODY SNATCHERS

- Although the Apostles were frightened and ran away (Matthew 26:56), within a few days they preached in the very city where Jesus was crucified (Acts 2:14-26).
- Most of them died a brutal death, and all of them were persecuted.



SWOON THEORY

- Jesus was severely beaten.
- Four executioners witnessed his death.
- His embalming included 70+ lbs. of spice.



SWOON THEORY

- Jesus could not roll away a two-ton stone.
- Jesus could not overpower the guards
- Jesus could not walk several miles to Emmaus.



WRONG TOMB

- Many people knew the tomb location.
- The disciples would have also have gone to the wrong tomb.
- The authorities would have had to go to the right produce the body.



AUTHORITIES TOOK IT

- Why would the Jewish authorities or the Roman authorities take the body?
- The Jews made up the explanation because they didn't know where the body was.
- All they had to do is produce body.



HALLUCINATIONS

- The situations were not conducive for hallucinations (over 500 people).
- If the disciples hallucinated, all the authorities had to do was produce the body.
- The disciples did not expect to see Jesus.
- Thomas was a skeptic.



RESURRECTION

“For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.”

1 Corinthians 15:16-17

RESURRECTION BODIES

- Jesus rose from grave bodily, not just spiritually.
- Most liberals and even some evangelicals talk about the resurrection as a symbol of the influence of Jesus in the world.
- Our resurrection bodies will be more than just spiritual bodies in a heavenly place.
- We are destined for the new heaven and new earth.

RESURRECTION BODIES

- The resurrection body of Jesus was not exactly like the body that died.
- There is continuity as well as discontinuity.
- Jesus is the “first fruits” and we will be like Him in the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:23).
- Notice how John contrasts the resurrection of Jesus with the resurrection of Lazarus (John 11:44).

RESURRECTION BODIES

- Lazarus was bound by linen strips and had to be unwound. The linen cloth of Jesus was at the tomb.
- Lazarus still had a mortal body and died. Jesus has a resurrection body that will never die again (Romans 6:9).
- Jesus passed through His grave clothes and through walls in rooms where the doors were locked (John 20:19 and 20:26).

RESURRECTION BODIES

- The resurrection body of Jesus had power.
- Jesus promises the same resurrection power to us in Philippians 3:21 - He will “transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.”
- If you belong to Jesus, you will receive a body like this and will enter into the new heavens and new earth with joy and peace unimaginable.

