

# THE SUNBEAM

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## THE SEALED TOMB.

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Our illustration represents well the Roman manner of sealing. The seal might be applied to any door, and when bearing the official stamp of the governor a violation of it by breaking it open was defiance against the authority and power of the Roman government. The seal was not a lock, but consisted simply of a string or cord taken across the door, and fastened at the ends with sealing-wax. Upon the wax while it was yet warm and soft the seal was impressed.

It was in this manner that the tomb in which Jesus lay was sealed. The Jews, pretending to fear that the disciples would come by night and steal away the body of Jesus, asked that a guard be ordered for the tomb, and that the door be sealed. Pilate gave commandment as they requested, and "they went, and made the sepulchresure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch."

But how vain were the seal, and the guard of Roman soldiers, when the Lord shook the place, and the brightness of the



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angelic presence flushed upon them. For "Behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone

found an empty grave, and a shining angel, dressed in white, said: "He is not here; he is risen." Rising from the grave is called a resurrection.

from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: and for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men."

Jesus the crucified Lord and Saviour arose from the dead, and came forth from the grave alive. "Fear not ye," said the angel to the women who came to the tomb, "for he is risen, as he said, Come and see the place where the Lord lay." On this Easter-day we look again into the empty grave. And we look up also into heaven, and we see Jesus "sitting at the right hand of the Majesty on high."

## RESURRECTION

Jesus once had a body like ours, which was often tired and weak. He died, and his body was laid in the grave. But he was stronger than death, and no grave could hold him. So, on the third day, when some loving women came to look for his body, they