

Lesson XI.

JESUS RISEN FROM THE DEAD

December 16, 1906

Matthew 23 : 1-15. Commit to memory vs. 5, 6. Read Mark 16 : 1-13 ; Luke 24 : 1-35.

GOLDEN TEXT—He is risen, even as he said.—Matthew 28 : 6.

1 ¹ In the end of the sabbath, ² as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mar'y Magdalene and the other Mar'y to see the sepulchre.

2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake : for ³ the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled ⁴ back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

3 His ⁵ countenance was ⁶ like lightning, and his raiment white as snow :

4 And for fear of him the ⁷ keepers did ⁸ shake, and became as dead men.

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye : for I know that ye seek Jesus, which ⁹ was crucified.

6 He is not here : for he is risen, ¹⁰ as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead : and, ¹¹ behold, he goeth before you into Galilee ; there shall ye see him : lo, I have told you.

8 And they departed quickly from the ¹² sepulchre

Revised Version—¹ Now late on ; ² day : ³ an ; ⁴ away the stone, and sat ; ⁵ appearance ; ⁶ as ; ⁷ watchers ; ⁸ quake ; ⁹ hath been ; ¹⁰ even ; ¹¹ lo ; ¹² tomb ; ¹³ ran ; ¹⁴ And behold, Jesus ; ¹⁵ took hold of his ; ¹⁶ saith ; ¹⁷ Fear not ; ¹⁸ depart ; ¹⁹ while ; ²⁰ guard ; ²¹ told ; ²² come to pass ; ²³ rid you of care ; ²⁴ was spread abroad ; ²⁵ and continueth.

THE LESSON EXPLAINED

Time and Place—The morning of the Lord's Day, April 9, A.D. 30 ; the tomb of Jesus in a garden near Calvary.

Connection—Jesus died at 3 p.m. on Friday (see last Lesson), and was buried the same evening (John 19 : 38-42) in a tomb belonging to Joseph of Arimathea, Matt. 27 : 59, 60. At the instance of the Jewish authorities, a guard of Roman soldiers was set at the sepulchre.

I. THE EMPTY TOMB.—1. End of the sabbath ; that is, the end of the night following the Jewish Sabbath, which ended at sunset on Saturday. First day, etc. ; ever since this, the Christian Sabbath. Mary Magdalene (of Magdala). Out of her Jesus had cast "seven devils", Luke 8 : 2. Her gratitude knew no bounds. The other Mary ; the mother of James and Joses, Mark 15 : 40. (See also Mark 16 : 1 ; Luke 24 : 10.) To see the sepulchre. Mark and Luke say, to anoint the body of Jesus.

2-4. A great earthquake ; at early dawn, perhaps while the women were on the way. The angel of the Lord ; a heavenly messenger. Rolled back the stone ; which closed the tomb's mouth. The women had been anxious about this, Mark 16 : 3. Like lightning ; brilliant and dazzling. Raiment white as snow. Compare ch. 17 : 2. Keepers ; the Roman guard. As dead men ; helpless to prevent our Lord's coming forth from the tomb.

5-7. Fear not ye. The women, unlike the soldiers, had no reason to be afraid. He is risen. What a wonderful fact, yet how simply told ! As he said. See ch. 27 : 63 ; Luke 24 : 6, 7. Come, see, etc. ; and so be sure that Jesus had risen. Tell his disciples ; the blessed tidings which, in the power of their risen Lord, they were to proclaim to the world (see Acts 2 : 32). He goeth . . . into Galilee ; where He was to meet, not with the eleven only, but with over five hundred disciples, vs. 16-20 ; 1 Cor. 15 : 6. (For Jesus' appearances before going into Galilee, see Questions for Seniors and the Home Department.)

with fear and great joy ; and ¹³ did run to bring his disciples word.

9 ¹⁴ And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and ¹⁵ held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

10 Then ¹⁶ said Jesus unto them, ¹⁷ Be not afraid : go tell my brethren that they ¹⁸ go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

11 Now ¹⁹ when they were going, behold, some of the ²⁰ watch came into the city, and ²¹ showed unto the chief priests all the things that were ²² done.

12 And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers,

13 Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept.

14 And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and ²³ secure you.

15 So they took the money, and did as they were taught : and this saying ²⁴ is commonly reported among the Jews ²⁵ until this day.



The Women at the Sepulchre

already appeared to Mary Magdalene, John 20 : 11, etc. All hail ; literally, "Rejoice", the common Greek salutation on meeting and parting. Took hold of his feet (Rev. Ver.) ; in the eagerness of their love. Worshipped ; falling on their knees before Him, to express their deepest reverence. Tell my brethren, etc. Compare v. 7.

III. THE FALSE REPORT.—11-15. The