

John 20

The Empty Tomb.

- 1 Stone removed. Not to let The Lord out but to let disciples in.
- 2 Mary Magdalene runs to Peter and John. She assumes that the body has been stolen.
- 3-7 First John then Peter reaches the tomb but instead of chaos they find order – no thief or grave robber was responsible for this.
- 8 Finally John enters and it dawns upon him what had happened.
- 9 Up until now the disciple had not realized that the Old Testament scriptures show that Jesus had to rise from the dead.
- 10-13 They go but Mary remains weeping with sorrow. Her reply to the angels question shows that she did not anticipate His resurrection.
- 14-16 The Lord's first resurrection appearance. Mary does not recognize Him. Until she hears His voice.
- 17 Mary wants to cling to Him but a new spiritual relationship now exists. Jesus is returning to The Father but He is also our Father.
- 18 The good news.
- 19-20 The Lord stands among the disciples. Note the emotions; fear, overjoyed peace conferred by The Prince of peace.
- 21 Our Lord commissions the disciples. Peace equals security, certainty, salvation.
- 22 Our Lord anticipates the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost to indwell and empower the disciples.
- 23 The power to forgive sins was through the gospel message they were to proclaim. Only those who believed would be forgiven.
- 24-28 Thomas demands proof. Upon receiving it he confesses his faith in the risen Lord.
- 29 Faith in the Word of God and the testimony of the disciples means a greater blessing.
- 30-31 Again the purpose John had in mind, is writing this gospel to give us the facts concerning the early life, claims and miracles of the Lord Jesus Christ; that we may come to believe in Him and receive eternal life.

John 21

Appendix. An afterthought to give a clear account of certain words of the Lord Jesus which had been misunderstood.

1-3 Peter and the other fishermen return to their trade.

4-8 The Risen Lord appears and after disappointment under His instruction they haul in a large catch. John says, "It is The Lord".

9-14 Invited to breakfast.

15-17 Three times Peter is challenged, "do you love Me?" No more boasting from Peter, he had learned a great lesson from his three fold denial. His responsibility would be to feed and nurture God's people. Sheep and lambs.

18, 19 Peter's service would lead to martyrdom.

20, 21 Peter wants to know, 'what about John'?

22 'That is really not your business'.

23 To what mistaken interpretation did this give rise? That the second coming would occur in John's lifetime.

24-25 John signs off.