

## April 17, 2022: Easter Sunday Remember to Remember That The Stone Is Rolled Away

## Luke 24:1-12 (NIV 11)

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. <sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: <sup>7</sup> 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " Then they remembered his words.

<sup>9</sup> When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. <sup>10</sup> It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup> But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. <sup>12</sup> Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened. <sup>1</sup>

1. The women went to the tomb expecting the stone to be in its place. How does all of life change if that stone was still in its place?

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- 2. It's a common misconception in Easter art that Jesus is pictured walking out of the tomb, once the stone had been rolled away. For what purpose did the angel actually roll away the stone?
- 3. If Jesus has destroyed the "shroud of death that enfolds all people" (Isaiah 25:7), why does this world still feel so bleak and full of pain and death?
- 4. For what reasons was it hard for the women and the disciples to remember Jesus' prediction of not only his suffering and death but also his resurrection? Why is it hard for us to remember his death and resurrection in the midst of this world?
- 5. God sent the angels to remind the women to remember what Jesus said. God sent the women to the disciples to remind them what Jesus had said about his resurrection. God sends us to remind the people in our lives of the empty tomb. What are the obstacles that keep us from running to tell people? How do we overcome them?
- 6. The prophet Isaiah prophesied, "God will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from the earth. (Isaiah 25:7,8). What parts of this prophecy have been fulfilled by the resurrection? What parts are waiting to be fully realized?
- 7. What does Jesus' Easter victory ensure about each of these things: your sin, your life, your baptism, your reception of the Lord's Supper, your death, and your eternal wellbeing?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The New International Version (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011), Lk 24:1–12.