# "The Empty Tomb"  Re-discovering Jesus in the Gospel of John

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# John 20:1-18 and Matthew 27:62-66; 28:11-15(ESV)

# 1 Corinthians 12:12-19 English Standard Version (ESV)

**12**For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. **13**For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

**14**For the body does not consist of one member but of many. **15**If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. **16**And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. **17**If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? **18**But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. **19**If all were a single member, where would the body be?

# Matthew 27:62-66 English Standard Version (ESV)

**62**The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate **63**and said, “Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise.’ **64**Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last fraud will be worse than the first.” **65**Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can.” **66**So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

# John 20:1-18English Standard Version (ESV)

**20**Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. **2**So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” **3**So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. **4**Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5**And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. **6**Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, **7**and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. **8**Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; **9**for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. **10**Then the disciples went back to their homes.

**11**But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. **12**And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. **13**They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” **14**Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. **15**Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” **16**Jesus said to her,“Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).**17**Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” **18**Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.

# Matthew 28:11-15English Standard Version (ESV)

**11**While they were going, behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place. **12**And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers **13**and said, “Tell people, ‘His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ **14**And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” **15**So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story has been spread among the Jews to this day.

**1) The tomb was sealed to prevent a stolen body.**

**2) Three solid witnesses saw the empty tomb.**

# 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 English Standard Version (ESV)

**15**Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, **2**and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

**3**For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, **4**that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, **5**and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. **6**Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. **7**Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. **8**Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

**3) Roman guards risked their lives reporting the facts.**

# 1 Corinthians 15:20-28English Standard Version (ESV)

**20**But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. **21**For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. **22**For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. **23**But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. **24**Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. **25**For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. **26**The last enemy to be destroyed is death. **27**For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. **28**When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.