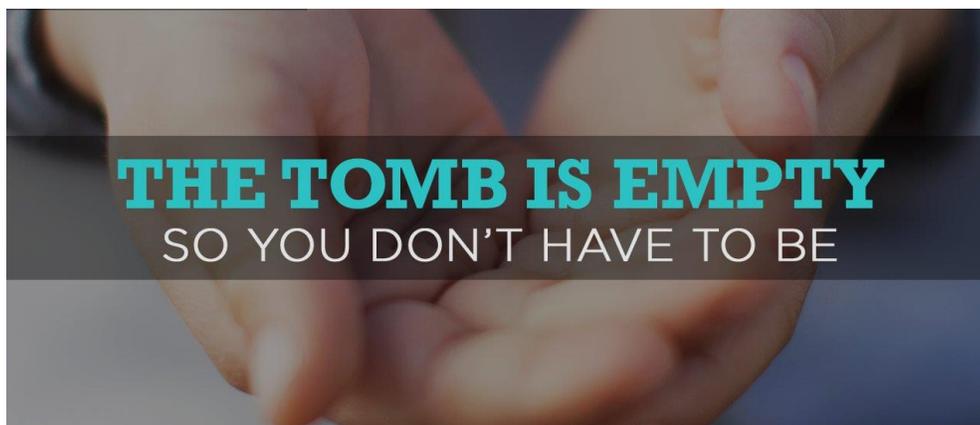


SPRING QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2017
THEME – SURVEYING THE MAGNITUDE OF GOD’S LOVE
UNIT II – THE FELLOWSHIP OF GOD’S LOVE

**“JESUS CHRIST, GOD’S LIVING, LOVING
WORD IS ALIVE AND WELL!”**



Sunday School Lesson No. VII – April 16, 2017
Presented by Rev. Frank Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher

- Lesson Text** **John 20:1-10, 19-20**
Required Reading: **John 20:1-31**
Memory Text: **John 20:20, “And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.”**
Reliable Resources: **Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Word Search 10 Electronic Library; Libronix Electronic Library; Precepts for Living (UMI); Standard Lesson Commentary; The John Phillips Commentary Series.**

INTRODUCTION

Beloved, this week we encounter the greatest news that earth or the universe has ever received: Jesus Christ the Messiah has risen from the dead and His disciples have both seen and fellowshiped with Him. No wonder the motto text speaks great volumes this week in John 20:20. Get it? 20:20 as in 20/20 vision, **“When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.”** NKJV. Beloved, after the betrayal and arrest in Gethsemane, the treachery of the trials before the religious leaders, Herod and Pilate, led to the horrendous suffering of the Crucifixion and His death. Jesus Christ, whom they saw buried in Joseph’s tomb, is alive and standing before their presence! ***HALLELUJAH!*** **“Jesus Christ, God’s Living, Loving Word Is Alive And Well!”**

But let us examine this sight for sore eyes, our Risen Lord, Living Word, who stands victorious and reassuring to His disciples past, present and future. Praise God, He is alive and well!

Anticipated Power Points:

- **The Discovery. John 20:1-8**
- **The Deliberation. John 20:9-11**
- **The Disclosure. John 20:12-20**

“JESUS CHRIST, GOD’S LIVING, LOVING WORD IS ALIVE AND WELL!”

LESSON OUTLINE EXPOSITION

I. The Discovery. John 20:1-8 (Read)

A. Mary’s discovery. vss. 1-2

After seeing the place where Joseph and Nicodemus laid the dead body of our Lord (Luke 23:55) several women who loved and followed Jesus, Mary Magdalene among them, went to prepare spices to anoint the Lord’s dead body (Luke 23:56–24:1). It was early in the morning of the first day of the week according to John 20:1, and Mary Magdalene,

which may have been among the first of the women to arrive at the grave, found the tomb open. She then left the site to make Peter and John aware of this situation, for she thought Jesus' body had been removed. Why were she and the women there so early? Remember they sought to anoint the dead body of the Lord Jesus (Luke 23:55-56). This was an act of their devoted, loving stewardship towards our Lord. What was the result? They were blessed to discover that He who was dead is now alive and well! (John 20:15-16). Beloved, what a lesson for us to ***“seek the Lord while He may be found.”*** When others are resting and snoring, let us learn to rise early and seek the Lord! ***“Seek and ye shall find.”***

B. Disciples' discovery. vss. 3-8

While they resided inside hiding, perhaps contemplating the results of the Lord's death, Peter and John get the message from Mary and now move with haste toward the sepulchre.

1. A footrace to the tomb by Peter and John. vss. 3-4
2. A moment of reflection in vs. 5, as John stopped, stooped and saw the empty tomb and no Saviour laying inside!
3. Peter the leader presses forward into the empty tomb and examines the situation. Jesus is not here; where on earth can He be? For it appeared that their senses were dulled to the previous teachings of Jesus that He would rise again! (Read Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:34). Could this be true? Is He alive, or did the religious leaders move His body away? Truly something unusual had happened as the discovery of an empty tomb was real. But what of the body of the Messiah? John Phillips writes: “Calvary was not the end of the story. The tomb was a punctuation mark in a story that began before the foundation of the world. The resurrection of Christ was an important highlight of the story.”

II. The Deliberation. John 20:9-11

A. The disciples' deliberation. vss. 9-10

The moments of uncertainty, according to verse 9, sent Peter and John home to contemplate the results! vs. 10

B. Mary's deliberation. vs. 11

The devotion of Mary caused her to deliberate at the place of question. Where is He? She wept, she stooped down, and she gazed to receive any glimmer of hope. And what did she discover as she deliberated?

III. The Disclosure. John 20:12-20

A. Mary's disclosure. vss. 12-18

Again, Jesus said in Matthew 7:7, ***“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.”*** Jesus rewarded this seeking saint with the greatest disclosure of her seeking heart:

1. The discovery of Angels. vs. 12
2. The disclosure of the Angels. vs. 13
3. The discovery of an unidentifiable man. vs. 14
4. The disclosure that this is the Messiah. vss. 15-16
5. The dialogue and declaration of the Master continues. vss. 12-18

B. Disclosure to the disciples. vss. 19-20

Remembering that the disciples went home to deliberate the evidence of the empty tomb and folded clothes (vss. 6-10) they now receive the message of the Master that discloses He is alive and well and desiring to see them. (Read Matthew 28:9-10; Luke 24:8-11). The message is one of shock and awe! ***“Jesus Christ, God's Living, Loving Word Is Alive And Well!”*** That was more than could be expected. So Jesus Christ disclosed Himself to them at evening the very same day! He appeared to them in 20/20 vision right where they were, behind closed doors. Jesus came, stood, spoke and gave them peace. (vs. 19). In verse 20 when they realized that truly it was He, they were exceedingly glad!

CLOSING

Beloved, where do you stand on this day in which we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord? Are you timelessly seeking Him because of His love which sought you and saved you like Mary? Or are you fearful of what might happen to you if you desire to walk in His way; afraid of what others may say or do? Jesus took our place and died for our sins. Let's not be afraid to own Him because He is not ashamed to own us and call us His own. John 17:20-23, ***“Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.”***



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LOOKING AHEAD:

April 23, 2017

Romans 5:6-11; 8:31-39

Please join us each Wednesday noon at Bibleway where Pastor Davis teaches the Sunday School lesson.