

## Synchronizing the Resurrection Narratives, Event #10: The women enter the tomb, see a total of three angels, Mark 16:1-3; Lk. 24:1-2.

---

Review of the resurrection narratives up to this point (I have narrowed down the *approximate* hour of the events based on the hour of sunset [Saturday, April 4, 33, Nisan 15] and sunrise [Sunday, April 5, 33, Nisan 16]; MM is Mary Magdalene):

- Event #1: Saturday, 5:45 p.m., April 4, 33: Two Marys go to “look” at tomb, Matt. 28:1.
- Event #2: Sunday, 3:00 a.m., April 5, 33: Earthquake and angel from heaven, Matt. 28:2-4.
- Event #3: Sunday, 4:00 a.m., MM visits the tomb before daybreak, Jn. 20:1.
- Event #4: Sunday, 4:15 a.m., MM reports empty tomb to John & Peter, Jn. 20:2.
- Event #5: Sunday, 4:30 a.m., Peter and John run to the tomb, Jn. 20:3-9.
- Event #6: Sunday, 4:40 a.m., MM returns to tomb & sees 2 angels, Jn. 20:10-13.
- Event #7: Sunday, 4:50 a.m., MM sees the Risen Lord, Jn. 20:14-17.
- Event #8: Sunday, 5:00 a.m., MM tells disciples who do not believe her, Jn. 20:18; Mk. 16:9-11.
- Event #9: Sunday, 6:00 a.m., MM & other women go to tomb of Jesus, Mk. 16:1-3; Lk. 24:1-2.
- Event #10: Sunday, 6:30 a.m., Women enter tomb; 3 angels, Mt. 28:5-7; Mk 16:4-7; Lk. 24:3-8.

The women saw a total of three angels (who appear as young men):

1. The first angel that had rolled away the stone earlier (cf. event #4) was now seated on the right side where the body of Jesus laid. This angel gave the women the message about the state of Jesus, “He has risen” (Matt. 28:6; Mk. 16:6) and that they would see Him in Galilee (Matt. 28:7; Mk. 16:7). The fact that the angel that rolled away the stone from the front of the tomb is the same angel that is seated at the right where the body of Jesus had laid is established by the angel’s speech which is virtually the same in Matthew and Mark.
2. The other two angels who “suddenly” stood by the women while they were in the tomb repeated the message of the first angel and added the question, “Why do you seek the living One among the dead?” (Luke 24:5).

The first angel (which had earlier rolled away the stone and sat on it, Matt. 28:2-4) was now inside the tomb at the right of where Jesus’s body had been:

**Matthew 28:5-7** And the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. <sup>6</sup> "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. <sup>7</sup> "And go quickly and tell

His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going before you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you."

**Mark 16:4-7** And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was extremely large. <sup>5</sup> And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed. <sup>6</sup> And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, *here is* the place where they laid Him. <sup>7</sup> "But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He said to you.'"

*Then*, two other angels suddenly appeared to the women in the tomb and reminded them of what Jesus had earlier prophesied. The women "remembered His words":

**Luke 24:3** but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> And it happened that while they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling apparel; <sup>5</sup> and as *the women* were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, *the men* said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead? <sup>6</sup> "He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again." <sup>8</sup> And they remembered His words,

The seated angel in Mark and the two standing angels of Luke are not contradictory depictions of the same angel, but clearly different descriptions of different angels, in different positions, and giving the women different speeches. There is no contradiction!

In Christ,

*Pastor Don*