

Synchronizing the Resurrection Narratives, Event #14: Peter runs to the tomb a second time, Luke 24:12.

Review of the resurrection *events* up to this point (I have narrowed down the *approximate* hour of the events based on sunset of Saturday, April 4, 33 and the sunrise of Sunday, April 5, 33; 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.
- Event #11: Sunday, 7:00 a.m.: Women run in fear; Jesus meets them, Mt. 28:8-10; Mk. 16:8.
- Event #12: Sunday, 8:00 a.m.: Women went to tell disciples; soldiers report, Mat 28:11-15.
- Event #13: Sunday, 8:10 a.m.: Once again, the disciples do not believe the women, Lk. 24:9-11
- Event #14: Sunday, 8:30 a.m.: However, Peter runs to the tomb a second time, Lk. 24:12.

Luke 24:12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings only; and he went away to his home, marveling at what had happened.

One of the reasons people have so much difficulty reconciling the various events is that they approach the narratives with an *a priori* mental map that sees the four Gospels are recording the same events rather than different events or episodes. Once one recognizes the multiplicity of episodes and how each Gospel writer includes *different/additional* episodes—e.g., Mary at the tomb by herself before daybreak as recorded by John—all contradictions disappear. Given the phenomenal nature of the death and prospect of resurrection of the *Messiah*—the One who claimed to be God, promised salvation, raised the dead, and performed many miracles—it is only natural to think that there was a great deal of activity that morning when it was discovered that He was no longer in the tomb and that people had seen Him. We can be certain that there was a great deal more activity than what is even recorded in the Bible. Including Acts and 1 Corinthians, there is a total of about 165 verses and these can be read in just a few minutes. After we go through the events chronologically, we will look at each Gospel account and note how the multiple episodes are laid out.

In event fourteen Peter runs to the tomb a second time. This must be distinguished from his trip to the tomb recorded in John 20. Note three distinctions:

- 1) Peter's sprint to the tomb in John 20 occurred before Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene. This sprint was after Jesus appeared to the women. Furthermore, in John it was before daybreak ("while it was still dark"), in Luke it was well after daybreak.
- 2) Note the different reason for the sprint: His first sprint to the tomb was the result of Mary Magdalene's alarming report, "they have taken away the Lord out of the sepulcher," John 20:2. However, this sprint was prompted by the joyous report from a *group* of women who had seen Jesus with their own eyes as per Matthew.
- 3) There is also indication that after this second sprint to the tomb that Peter was perhaps warming up to the news of Jesus's resurrection, ". . . and he went away to his home, marveling at what had happened," Lk. 24:12.

Eternally Secure,

Pastor Don

Hebrews 13:5 Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,"