

John 20:1-10

John 20:1-3 *“(1) The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. (2) Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. (3) Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.”*

A. It is the first day of the week when they came to bring spices to the sepulchre of Jesus (**Matthew 28:1, Mark 16:1-2, and Luke 24:1**).

1. There was a great stone that had blocked the door to the sepulchre (**Matthew 27:60**).

2. That great stone had been removed (**Mark 16:1-4**).

B. Mary thought Jesus' body had been stolen (**John 20:11-13**).

1. We must always remember that graves do not contain people, but merely lifeless flesh (**James 2:26**).

2. The human body decomposes in the grave (**Genesis 3:19, Ecclesiastes 3:20, and Ecclesiastes 12:7**).

3. Fleshly decay does not prevent one from being resurrected (**I Corinthians 15:42-55**).

John 20:4-8 *“(4) So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. (5) And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. (6) Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, (7) And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. (8) Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.”*

A. There was a level of unbelief that drove these men to see if Jesus was gone (**Mark 16:11 and Luke 24:11**).

1. Jesus had been bound in burial garments (**John 19:40**).

2. Peter saw those garments left behind and that caused him to further question what was going on (**Luke 24:12**).

B. The other disciple saw and believed (cf. **John 20:24-29**).

1. People of faith do not need to see Jesus with our eyes (**II Corinthians 5:7**).

2. Yet, at the same time, we need to have evidence to believe in (**Hebrews 11:1**; cf. **I Thessalonians 5:21**).

a. We read testimony from witnesses (**Acts 2:32, Acts 3:15, and Acts 10:38-43**).

b. We have fulfilled prophecies (**Matthew 26:56**).

i. The virgin birth of Christ (**Isaiah 7:14**; cf. **Matthew 1:18-23**).

ii. Jesus being born in Bethlehem (**Micah 5:2**; cf. **Matthew 2:1**).

- iii. Jesus being a prophet likened unto Moses (**Deuteronomy 18:15-19**; cf. **Acts 3:22-26**).
- iv. Vinegar and gall given to Jesus (**Psalms 69:21**; cf. **John 19:28-29**).
- c. We have Scriptures that show that God's knowledge by far supersedes that of "Scientists" (**Isaiah 55:8-9**, **Romans 11:33-36**, and **I Corinthians 3:18-19**).

John 20:9-10 "(9) For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. (10) Then the disciples went away again unto their own home."

- A. The disciples were ignorant concerning the resurrection of Jesus (**Mark 9:2-10**).
 - 1. Part of the problem was that they feared questioning Jesus on this matter in the past (**Mark 9:31-32**).
 - 2. The other side of this matter is that there were things intentionally left as a mystery (**Luke 9:44-45** and **Romans 16:25**).
 - 3. That being said, it is not like Jesus did not tell them about His resurrection (**Matthew 16:21**, **Matthew 17:22-23**, and **Luke 9:22**).
- B. The understanding of the disciples still was not opened (cf. **Luke 24:45**).
 - 1. They were still thinking in carnal terms and that is like wearing a spiritual blindfold (**Romans 8:6-7** and **Galatians 5:16-17**).
 - 2. They were forgetting that Jesus was not limited to whom He was in the flesh (**Colossians 1:12-19**).