

The Gospel of Mark

Lesson 22

Mark 16:1 – 20

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; ⁷then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; ⁸and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also. 1 Cor 15:3-8

Timeline of Resurrection and the Next Forty Days

– from The Bible Knowledge Commentary: NT

SUNDAY MORNING

1. An angel rolled away the stone from Jesus' tomb before sunrise (Matt. 28:2-4).
2. Women who followed Jesus visited Jesus' tomb and discovered Him missing (Matt. 28:1; Mark 16:1-4; Luke 24:1-3; John 20:1).
3. Mary Magdalene left to tell Peter and John (John 20:1-2).
4. The other women, remaining at the tomb, saw two angels who told them about the Resurrection (Matt. 28:5-7; Mark 16:5-7; Luke 24:4-8).
5. Peter and John visited Jesus' tomb (Luke 24:12; John 20:3-10).
6. Mary Magdalene returned to the tomb and Jesus appeared to her alone in the garden (Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18): *His first appearance*.
7. Jesus appeared to the other women (Mary, mother of James, Salome, and Joanna) (Matt. 28:8-10): *His second appearance*.
8. Those who guarded Jesus' tomb reported to the religious rulers how the angel rolled away the stone. They were then bribed (Matt. 28:11-15).
9. Jesus appeared to Peter (1 Cor. 15:5): *His third appearance*.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

10. Jesus appeared to two men on the road to Emmaus (Mark 16:12-13; Luke 24:13-32): *His fourth appearance*.

SUNDAY EVENING

11. The two disciples from Emmaus told others they saw Jesus (Luke 24:33-35).
12. Jesus appeared to 10 apostles, with Thomas absent, in the Upper Room (Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25): *His fifth appearance*.

THE FOLLOWING SUNDAY

13. Jesus appeared to the 11 Apostles, including Thomas, and Thomas believed (John 20:26-28): *His sixth appearance*.

THE FOLLOWING 32 DAYS

14. Jesus appeared to seven disciples by the Sea of Galilee and performed a miracle of fish (John 21:1-14): *His seventh appearance*.
15. Jesus appeared to 500 (including the Eleven) at a mountain in Galilee (Matt. 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-18; 1 Cor. 15:6): *His eighth appearance*.
16. Jesus appeared to His half-brother James (1 Cor. 15:7): *His ninth appearance*.
17. At Jerusalem Jesus appeared again to His disciples (Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:3-8): *His 10th appearance*.
18. On the Mount of Olives Jesus ascended into heaven while the disciples watched (Mark 16:19-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12).

The Resurrection

¹When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him. ²Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. ³They were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” ⁴Looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was extremely large. ⁵Entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed. ⁶And 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. ⁷“But go, tell His disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.’” ⁸They went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

- Saturday night after sunset, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices to complete the burial process – counteract the decaying smell.
- Early on Sunday morning (the first day of the week) the women came to the tomb. The women were concerned about who would remove the large stone from in front of the entrance to the tomb indicating they were not expecting the resurrection. The stone was rolled away to allow the witnesses in; not to let Jesus out.
- As the women entered the tomb they saw the angelic messenger (young man). There were two angels (Luke 24:3-4 and John 20:12), but Mark only mentions the spokesman.
- The angel announced that Jesus had risen – the tomb is empty. The women were to go tell the disciples and Peter that Jesus was going ahead of them to Galilee.
- Peter mentioned here is another indication of Mark’s authorship. Mark singles out Peter that to show that his forgiveness from his denying Jesus was complete.
- These women were the first to hear the news of Jesus’ resurrection but their reports were disregarded initially as women were not considered eligible witnesses under Jewish law. The disciples did not go to Galilee immediately. Jesus’ additional appearances to them in the Jerusalem vicinity were necessary to convince them of the reality of His resurrection (cf. John 20:19-29). The Bible Knowledge Commentary: NT

The Disputed Ending

- The last 12 verses of Mark (16:9-20) known as “the longer ending of Mark” constitute one of the most difficult and most disputed textual problems in the New Testament. Several interpreters believe that Mark concluded his Gospel at this point. The abrupt ending is consistent with Mark’s style and punctuates his development of the themes of fear and astonishment throughout his Gospel. The reader is left to ponder with awe the meaning of the empty tomb as interpreted by the angel’s revelatory message. The Bible Knowledge Commentary: NT
- While for the most part summarizing truths taught elsewhere in Scripture, vv. 9-20 should always be compared with the rest of Scripture, and no doctrines should be formulated based solely on them. ...it is possible to be wrong on the issue, and thus it is good to consider the meaning of this passage and leave it in the text...

The Appearances

⁹Now after He had risen early on the first day of the week, He first appeared to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons. ¹⁰She went and reported to those who had been with Him, while they were mourning and weeping. ¹¹When they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they refused to believe it.

¹²After that, He appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking along on their way to the country. ¹³They went away and reported it to the others, but they did not believe them either. ¹⁴Afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at the table; and He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen.

- Mark only describes three of Jesus' post resurrection appearances out of the eleven or so described in all the Gospels and Acts.
- Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons. She had been delivered from much and she loved Jesus much and followed Him faithfully.
- When Mary told the disciples about seeing Jesus alive, the disciples refused to believe her.
- Jesus then appeared to two disciples on the way to the village of Emmaus. Yet the eleven did not believe these two either.

¹³And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴And they were talking with each other about all these things which had taken place. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and *began* traveling with them. ¹⁶But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him. ¹⁷And He said to them, **“What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?”** And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸*One of them*, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, “Are You the only one visiting Jerusalem and unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?” ¹⁹And He said to them, **“What things?”** And they said to Him, “The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, ²⁰and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him. ²¹“But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened. ²²“But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive. ²⁴“Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but Him they did not see.” ²⁵And He said to them, **“O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶“Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?”** ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

²⁸And they approached the village where they were going, and He acted as though He were going farther. ²⁹But they urged Him, saying, “Stay with us, for it is *getting* toward evening, and the day is now nearly over.” So He went in to stay with them. ³⁰When He had reclined *at the table* with them, He took the bread and blessed *it*, and breaking *it*, He *began* giving *it* to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. ³²They said to one another, “Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?”

³³And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, ³⁴saying, “The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon.” ³⁵They *began* to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.
Luke 24:13-35

- Jesus then rebuked the eleven for their unbelief and hardness of heart.
- By hearing about Jesus' resurrection (before seeing Him) they learned what it was like to believe the testimony of eyewitnesses. This would be necessary for all those to whom they would preach in their coming missionary outreach. The Bible Knowledge Commentary: NT

The Disciples Commissioned

¹⁵And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. ¹⁶“He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. ¹⁷“These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

- Mark records the great commission that was given to the disciples in Galilee. Matthew recorded a more detailed version.

¹⁸And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Matt. 28:18-20

- The emphasis of v16 is the contrast between the saved and the condemned.
- A single Greek article governs both substantival participles, linking them together in describing the inward, efficacious reception of the gospel by faith (believing) and the outward, public expression of that faith in water baptism. The Bible Knowledge Commentary: NT
- The emphasis in v. 16 is not on baptism but on believing. In the early church, believing on Jesus Christ led to a public declaration of faith in the ordinance of water baptism (Acts 8:36-38; 10:47-48), and being baptized sometimes cost people their family, friends, and job. If water baptism is essential to salvation, then nobody in the OT was saved; Heb. 11 tells us that OT saints were saved by faith. Wiersbes Expository Outlines on the New Testament
- The “signs” that were to accompany the believers were manifested during the apostolic age. These were supernatural signs that authenticated the gospel message (v20) before the NT was complete.

The Ascension

¹⁹So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. ²⁰And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.

- The Lord Jesus – only used here and in Luke 24:3.
- From near Bethany (the Mount of Olives?) Jesus ascended to heaven. There He sat down at the right hand of God where He intercedes for us. The disciples had work to do on earth – to preach the gospel everywhere confirmed with signs.

⁵⁰And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. ⁵¹While He was blessing them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy, ⁵³and were continually in the temple praising God. Luke 24:50-53

¹²Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. Acts 1:12

- Having completed His work on earth, Jesus returned to the Father in heaven; and there He represents us as our High Priest (Heb. 4:14-16) and Advocate (1 John 2:1-2). But He does more than represent us; He also works in us and through us to accomplish the mandate He left with His church. Since the Gospel of Mark emphasizes Christ the Servant, it is only right that the book close with this reminder that God’s Servant is still at work! He works in us (Heb. 13:20-21; Phil. 2:12-13), with us (v. 20), and for us (Rom. 8:28) if we will allow Him to work through us by the power of His Holy Spirit. Wiersbes Expository Outlines on the New Testament

Topical Outline

- Baptism and Temptation (1:1-13)
 - The Title
 - John Fulfills Old Testament Prophecy; John's Work; John's Lifestyle; John's Message
 - Jesus' Baptism at the Jordan; The Father's Divine Response to Jesus' Baptism; Jesus' Temptation
- Year-Long Ministry in Judea (John 1:19-4:45)
- Galilean Ministry (1:14-7:23)
 - Summary of Jesus Teaching
 - Calling the first disciples as fishermen
 - Healing a demoniac in Capernaum
 - Healing Simon's mother-in-law
 - Healing many people
 - Preaching tour through Galilee
 - Healing a Leper during the preaching tour
 - Healing a Paralytic
 - The Calling of Matthew
 - Conflict over fasting and parables of cloth and wineskin
 - Conflict over Sabbath work
 - Conflict over Sabbath healing
 - Teaching and healing great multitudes
 - Choosing the twelve
 - Opposition of Jesus' family
 - Opposition of the Scribes – the unpardonable sin
 - Jesus teaches in parables
 - Parable of the sower and soils; The purpose of parables; Explanation of the parable of the sower and soils; Parable of the lamp; Parable of the growing seed; Parable of the mustard seed; Summary statement on parables
 - Jesus calms the sea
 - Jesus heals the Gerasene Demoniac
 - Jesus heals a woman with a hemorrhage
 - Jesus raises Jairus' daughter
 - Jesus' last visit to Nazareth and rejection
 - Third teaching tour through Galilee
 - Sending out the twelve
 - Popular conceptions of Jesus' nature and John's fate recalled
 - The apostles return
 - Five thousand men fed
 - Four miracles – Jesus walks on water, Peter walks on water, sea calmed, boat transported
 - Multiple healings at Gennesaret
 - Conflict with Pharisees – True worship
 - The sinful heart of man
- Withdrawal with Disciples into Various Gentile Regions (7:24-8:26)
 - Healing the Syrophenician Woman's Daughter
 - Healing the Deaf Mute
 - Feeding the 4000
 - Pharisees Seek a Sign
 - Disciples do not Understand
 - Healing Blind Man

- The Road to Jerusalem (8:27-10:52)
 - The First Passion Prediction Unit (8:27-9:29)
 - Peter's Confession
 - Jesus Rebukes Peter
 - Discipleship
 - The Transfiguration
 - The Coming of Elijah
 - Healing a Boy with an Evil Spirit
 - The Second Passion Prediction Unit (9:30-10:31)
 - Death and Resurrection Foretold
 - True Greatness – Teaching on Servanthood
 - The Seriousness of Sin
 - Jesus' Teaching about Divorce
 - Children and Faith
 - The Rich Young Ruler
 - Riches and the Kingdom of God
 - Rewards of Being a Disciple of Jesus
 - The Third Passion Prediction Unit (10:32-52)
 - Jesus' Third Prediction of His Suffering
 - Greatness in the Kingdom
 - Bartimaeus Receives His Sight
- The Passion Week (11:1-15:47)
 - The Date of the Triumphal Entry
 - Sunday The Triumphal Entry
 - Monday Cursing the Fig Tree
Driving Out Money Changers from the Temple
 - Tuesday Teaching on Faith and Forgiveness
Jesus' Authority Questioned
Parable of the Vine-growers
Jesus Answers Religious Leaders – Priorities, Resurrection, Great Commandment
Jesus Questions Religious Leaders
Hypocrisy Condemned
The Widow's Mite
The Olivet Discourse – Things to Come
Jewish Leaders Plot to Kill Jesus
Mary Anoints Jesus and Judas Plans to Betray Him
The Passover Celebration
The Lord's Supper
Foretelling Scattering and Peter's Denial
Prayer in Gethsemane
Betrayal
The Second Jewish Trial
Peter's Denials
The Third Jewish Trial
The First Roman Trial
The Third Roman Trial
Jesus Is Mocked and Led to Golgotha
Timeline of the Crucifixion Events
The Crucifixion
The Death of Jesus Christ, the Son of God
Jesus Is Buried
- The Resurrection (16:1-8)
- The Appearances (16:9-13)
- The Disciples Commissioned (16:14-18)
- The Ascension (16:19-20)