

## THE BRIGHTEST DAY IN ALL THE WORLD

Luke 23:50-56; Luke 24:1-48.

LESSON 120 -- Primary Course

MEMORY VERSE: "The Lord is risen" (Luke 24:34).

### BIBLE TEXTS

#### Luke 23:50-56;

50 And, behold, there was a man named Joseph, a counsellor; and he was a good man, and a just:

51 (The same had not consented to the counsel and deed of them;) he was of Arimathaea, a city of the Jews: who also himself waited for the kingdom of God.

52 This man went unto Pilate, and begged the body of Jesus.

53 And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid.

#### Luke 24:1-48.

1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

8 And they remembered his words,

9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs.

54 And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on.

55 And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid.

56 And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.

14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened.

15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.

16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.

17 And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?

18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days?

19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:

20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.

21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.

22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;

23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.

24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.

25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:  
26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?  
27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.  
28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.  
29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.  
30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.  
31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.  
32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?  
33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,  
34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.  
35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.  
36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.  
38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?  
39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.  
40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.  
41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?  
42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.  
43 And he took it, and did eat before them.  
44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.  
45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,  
46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:  
47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.  
48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

## NOTES

### The Tomb

Early Sunday morning Mary Magdalene and others of Jesus' friends were on their way to the tomb where Jesus' dear body had been laid. Two days before, they had watched as Joseph of Arimathæa tenderly took Jesus' body from the cross and wrapped it in clean linen clothes and laid it in his own tomb. It was a cave Joseph had cut out of the rock where he intended to be buried himself when he died. They saw Joseph roll a great stone to close the door of the tomb. Then they had gone away with sad, heavy hearts. They rested on Saturday, the Sabbath that the Children of Israel kept holy in those days.

### Sad Hearts

All Jesus' friends were very, very sad. They had expected Him to stay here on earth with them and be their King, their Teacher, and Helper, but now He lay in the tomb. Mary and the women with her had brought sweet smelling spices and oil to put on the body of their beloved Friend.

When they came near the tomb they saw that the heavy stone that had closed the door had been rolled away. They hurried to look inside. But they saw that the body of Jesus was not there! They were troubled and did not know what to do. Suddenly they saw two angels dressed in bright, shining clothes. The beautiful angels told them that Jesus was not in the tomb because He had risen – He was alive again! Did they not remember that Jesus Himself had told them He would die but that He would rise again the third day? Now they did remember, and how glad they were that they would see Jesus again.

The women told the disciples and others of Jesus' friends that they had seen angels who had told them Jesus was alive. The disciples did not believe Jesus was really alive, but Peter ran to the tomb to see for himself. Peter had a special reason for hoping that he would see Jesus again. We know that when Jesus was in trouble Peter said he did not know Him, but Peter had cried and repented, and wanted again to feel the sweet love and friendship of Jesus. As he reached the tomb, Peter stooped down, and looking in saw only the linen clothes in which the body of Jesus had been wrapped. He turned and left, wondering and troubled about what had happened.

Even though Jesus had told the disciples plainly a number of times that He would die and rise again the third day, they had not really known what He meant.

### **The Stranger**

Later in the day two of them were walking along a country road not far from Jerusalem. They were talking about Jesus and of the things that had happened. A Man whom they did not seem to know came along. He asked them why they were sad. They asked Him if he didn't know the terrible thing that had happened in Jerusalem just three days ago. He must be a stranger, they thought. So they told Him about their Friend, Jesus. They said that He had been a great Prophet and had done many good things. He had been kind and helped everybody, and they had thought He would become their King, and then they would not have to do what the Roman soldiers told them to do. But wicked men had taken Jesus and put Him on a cross just outside Jerusalem, and he had died. They told the "Stranger" that they were surprised that morning when certain women told them that Jesus' body was not in the tomb and they had seen angels who told them Jesus was alive.

Then the Stranger reminded them of what God had said many years before about the King who should come – that He must first suffer and die so that men might be saved from sin and be good and holy, before He could be King here on earth.

It was late when they entered the narrow street of the village and came to the gate of the house where they intended to stay that night. The Stranger would have walked on; but they must have liked Him, for they asked Him to come in and stay with them. When they sat down to eat, the Stranger blessed the bread, and then they knew it was Jesus Himself – truly alive, even as the women had said. Then suddenly Jesus was gone!

### **The Risen Lord**

These two friends started back to Jerusalem right away to tell the others that they had seen Jesus. They found the disciples already knew that Jesus was truly alive, because Peter had seen Him that day, too. The room where they were gathered was closed – the door was shut – but as they were talking, suddenly Jesus Himself was there! At first they thought He was not real, but just a spirit. Jesus said: "Why are ye trouble? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself; handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have." He ate a piece of fish and some honeycomb before them to prove that He was really alive and not just a spirit.

Surely this was the brightest day in all the world! Jesus had said He would rise again the third day, and His words had come true, as they always do. Today we can read the Bible and know that because they are Jesus' Words they are true, and everything He said would happen will be just as He said it would be.

All this happened the first day of the week, or Sunday, and is called the Lord's Day. Ever since that time people who believe and love the whole Bible have kept that day as a special day of worship, instead of Saturday, which the Children of Israel kept.

### **Telling the World**

As Jesus talked with them, He told them He had come to earth to show men how to live, and had been willing to die on the cross, and had risen again so that everyone might be saved from sin, and be good and kind. He told them that because they had seen all these things that had happened he wanted them to go and tell people

everywhere that He had died but had risen again from the grave, so that every one who would repent might be with Him when He comes again to be King on the earth.

If children have been bad, they must be sorry for their sin as Peter was after he had said he did not know Jesus. He cried and asked Jesus to forgive him. We, too, can pray to Jesus and ask Him to forgive us, and give us a new heart so we can always love Jesus, and be good and tell the truth. Then because we are saved, we can tell others about Jesus, and they can be saved, too.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. Where was Jesus' body laid? Luke 23:53.
2. What day of the week did the women take spices to the tomb? Luke 24:1.
3. What did the angel tell them? Luke 24:6.
4. Who was the "Stranger"? Luke 24:31.
5. What did Jesus tell His disciples to do? Mark 16:15.

LESSON RESOURCES

TITLE

THE BRIGHTEST  
DAY IN  
ALL THE WORLD

Lesson 120

Luke 23:50-56; 24:1-48

# The Grave Could Not Hold Him

WATCH & PRAY 114

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4↑

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## The Grave Could Not Hold Him

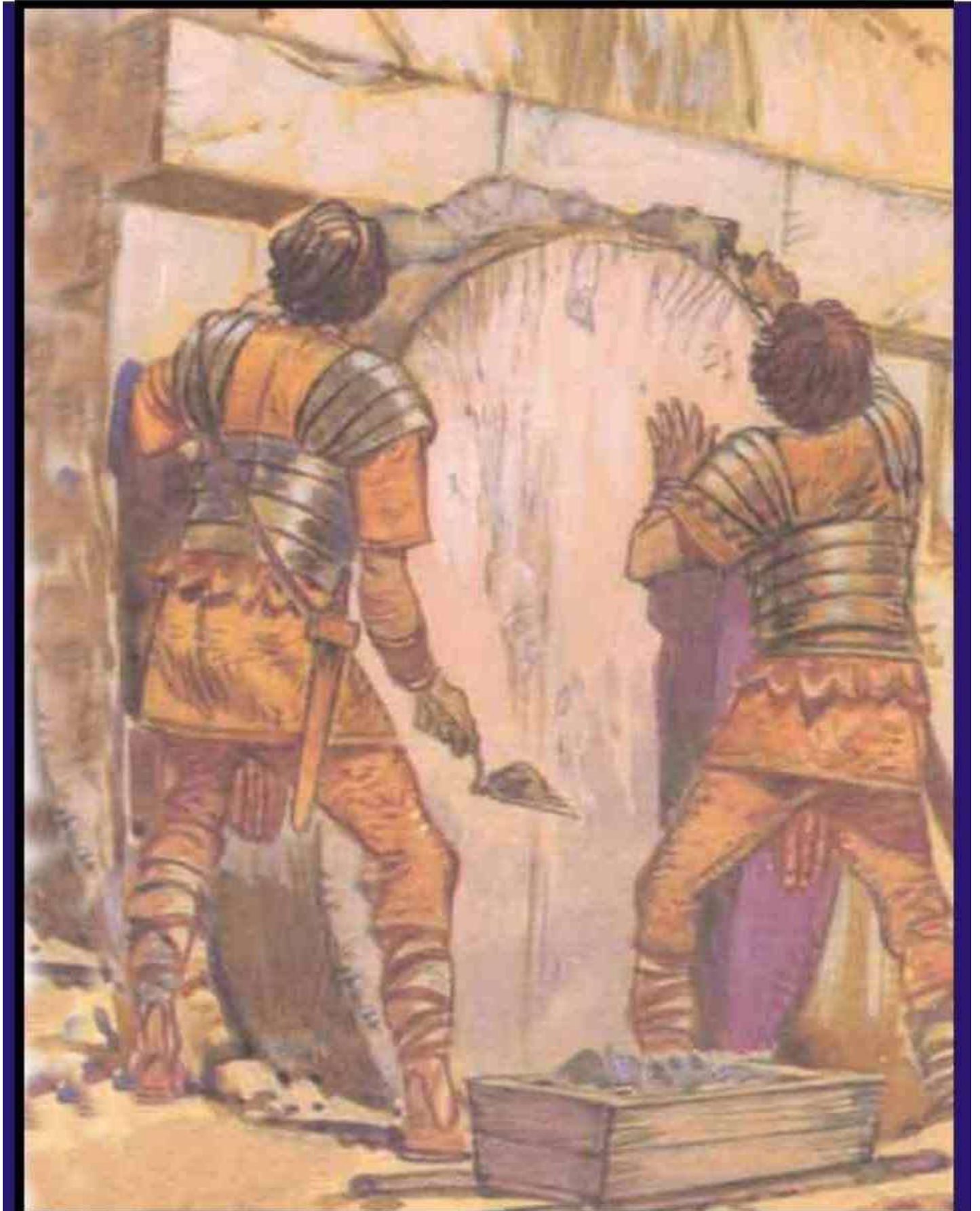
The grave could not hold my  
Redeemer and Lord

But as He had promised and said  
The third day's bright morning  
fulfilling His word,

My Saviour arose, from the dead  
He arose, He arose

Just as He had promised and said  
The grave could not hold my  
Redeemer and Lord  
He arose from the dead.

PICTURE 1





PICTURE 2



PICTURE 3

