



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE JOHN 20:1-10, 19-20

## LESSON: RISEN FROM THE DEAD! (EASTER) — April 9, 2023

### INTRODUCTION:

**Chapter 19:38-42** <sup>1</sup>When the soldiers were through with their gruesome work of crucifixion, the Romans usually left the dead bodies hanging for the beasts of prey to come and get them, while the Jews removed exposed bodies. Because it was almost the Sabbath (which began at sundown) it was necessary for the burial to take place quickly. Joseph of Arimathea got permission from Pilate to take Jesus' body. Nicodemus also came bringing myrrh and other spices. Both these men were wealthy and members of the Sanhedrin, but were secret disciples (**19:38-39**). Jewish burial customs included washing the body and covering it with cloth and oils and spices (**19:40**). It seems evident that Joseph and Nicodemus had carefully planned their activities during the crucifixion. It would have been very hard to secure a tomb at the last minute and they would not have been able to purchase 100 pounds of costly spices so quickly. God had prepared two high ranking men to prepare Jesus body for burial and to place it in a proper tomb after the crucifixion. So, these two men took Jesus' body and wound Him in linen clothes with the spices as the manner is of the Jews to bury. They took and placed Jesus in a new tomb near the place of the crucifixion (**19:42**) near a garden. Matthew records that this was Joseph's own tomb that he had cut out of the rock (Matt. 27:60). This fulfills Isaiah's prophecy that the Messiah, though despised and rejected by men, would be with the rich in His death (Isaiah 53:9). Jesus was laid in the tomb because the Jews were preparing to start their Sabbath Day.

### LESSON: I. THE UNEXPECTED EMPTY TOMB JOHN 20:1-5

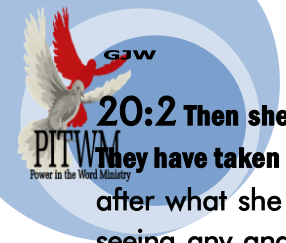
**20:1** **The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early,**— Other gospels tell us that Mary came with several of the women, but here in the Gospel of John we're focusing on Mary Magdalene. Mary Magdalene stands out as the most prominent of the women witnessing the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Her love and devotion was very deep, for Jesus cast seven devils out of her Mk.16:9. Mary had displayed a special quality of devotion. It was "*the first day of the week.*" In Matthew, it actually says that Mary Magdalene's visit to the tomb was at "*the end of the sabbath*" (when the Sabbath was completely finished). In John, "*the first day of the week*" was significant:

1. This was significant to the early Christian believers, because they broke away from the common division of the week which began with the Sabbath or Saturday. They began to count their days beginning with Sunday, the day of the resurrection of their Lord.
2. This also meant that Jesus had been in the grave for three days just as He had said.
3. Also that Jesus was in the grave on the Sabbath unable to observe the laws governing the great season of the Passover and the Sabbath. He was dead (no doubt about it). Therefore, the law and its observances had no authority over Him. This is symbolic of the identification Believers gain in Christ. In Christ's death believers become dead to the law. Read Romans 8.

**20:1b** **...when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.** It was early in the morning, yet it was dark and Mary comes and sees the stone is already removed or rolled away from the entrance of the sepulcher (the tomb). In Jesus' day, tombs were closed by rolling a huge cartwheel-like stone in front of the entrance. They were almost impossible to remove. The stone usually weighed several tons and further secured by being sealed. In the case of Jesus' tomb, further precautions were taken by placing a patrol of soldiers to guard against any foul play. Mary would have had trouble removing the stone, but now there was something worse...

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.family-times.net/commentary/the-burial-of-jesus/>  
[www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html](http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html)





# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**20:2** 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.** Can you see Mary running after what she witnessed? Evidently, the Gospel of John doesn't mention that Mary went into the open tomb or seeing any angels. She ran, and found Simon Peter, and the other disciple, whom Jesus loved (John), and saith, *"They have taken away the LORD out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him."*

**20:3** Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.

**20:4** So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre.

**20:5** And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. There was a race to the tomb to see what Mary was talking about; to see if she was hallucinating. As the race continued, John outran Peter. John arrived at the tomb and just glanced in noticing the linen clothes (called grave clothes), and Jesus was not within the clothes.

## II. THE GRADUALLY EXPANDED UNDERSTANDING JOHN 20:6-10, 19-20

**20:6** Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, — The impulsive Peter does not just stop outside the tomb, he goes directly inside. If the body had been removed by the authorities or stolen by someone, the linen clothes would have been taken with the body or left in a disheveled mess, thrown someplace on the floor. He sees and observes that the linens were still there folded and wrapped just like they would be wrapped around a body, not disheveled and disarranged or scattered. It was as if the body had just evaporated.

**20:7** And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. Two things found in the tomb, but not the "body."— 1) The napkin neatly folded that covered Jesus' head or face; 2) and the linen clothes wrapped together in its place. <sup>2</sup>According to Jewish tradition, as long as the "Napkin" was folded on the table, the Master of the House was not done. Apparently Jesus left a Message that morning with the *Napkin that was Folded*. *"I am not done Yet!"* I know His last words on the cross before He rendered His Spirit was, *"It is Finished!"*

- It told me that He had to ascend back to the Father to send the Holy Ghost back. And the Holy Ghost would still be working within the hearts of the sinners, so He was not done yet!
- It told me that many more would be saved, healed, and delivered through the work of His disciples, so I have good news for you, He is not done yet!!!!

**The point is:** they had to see Him again, before ascending to His Father. There had to be witnesses that Jesus arose from the dead; He was still alive, so He was not done yet!

**20:8** Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. After seeing Peter go in, John now enters into the sepulcher.

- Peter had gone in and saw the linen clothes and the napkin (v.6) and he's still trying to wrap his head around what he sees.
- But here, John sees the same things, but after seeing, he believes! What did he believe? Could John have just believed what Mary had said is true? Or could John have realized that Jesus had gone to the Father? He saw the napkin and the grave clothes untouched and neatly in their place. He could have remembered what Jesus said. *"A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father"* Jh. 16:16. Well the next verse says they didn't know the scripture.



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

**20:9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.** We have two degrees of men with two perceptions in their actions of behavior. John, who leaned on Jesus' breast, and Peter, who was so inquisitive and desirous of knowing our Lord's meaning in everything, did not understand the sense of His words yet, nor of those places of Scripture He had reference to. *'I will rise again'* was never mentioned in John's Gospel until now. They knew about Jesus being the Resurrection and Life, when Jesus told Martha to believe about Lazarus; *"...he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die..."* (Jh.11:24-26). The disciples were there and heard it. And there is the scripture: *"...and be killed, and on the third day be raised"* in Matt.16:21; Lk.24:7, 46 NKJV; The words **"Rise again"** is also mentioned in Matt., Mk., and Lk. Why they didn't remember is not explained. But as I look at TLB translation—vv.8-9 *"Then I went in too, and saw, and believed (that he had risen) for until then we hadn't realized that the Scriptures said he would come to life again!"* This translation tends to say that it hadn't really crossed the disciple's minds that He would come to life again.

**20:10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.** This was a strange thing to even witness, so they only thought of returning to their own home, (the place where they were temporarily residing).

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**20:19 Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.** Let's go back. In verse 18 Mary Magdalene went back to the disciples to give them Good News: she had seen the Lord and The Living Word sends this message— *"I ascend unto my Father and your Father; and to my God, and your God"* 20:17. It is still the first day of the week when Mary goes to the tomb, but now evening has come and the disciples are assembled behind closed doors for fear of the Jews. They knew where to go (written in Matt., Mk., and Lk.) to meet in Galilee as told to them by the women. Now, they are assembled there in Galilee in the upper room waiting for Jesus. Mind you, these doors were locked doors for a reason. They thought they would be next to be killed, but here is Jesus suddenly standing in the midst of them speaking a word of Peace! They didn't open the door for Him, He just appeared; manifested Himself in their midst. Yes, that also frightened them! Jesus says to them, *"Peace be with you,"* because He knew they were afraid and troubled, so He brings a greeting and a message of peace.

**20:20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the LORD.** In Luke 24:39 He says, *"Behold my hands and feet, that it is I myself: handle me and see..."* They thought they were looking at a ghost. The two things that Jesus did to assure them and prove that it was really He in the Gospel of John was...

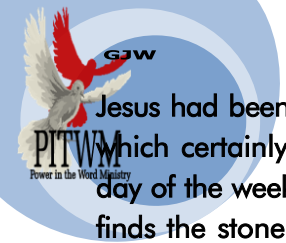
1. He used the simple day to day greeting among the Jews: *"Peace be unto you"* (v19). This had to give some indication that it was Him.
2. He showed them His wounds: hands and side. They had to know for sure, this was He.

Yes they were so glad because now Jesus was before them all and giving proof. This was not a second-hand witness; this was a firsthand witness of Jesus by them. It is truly the dawn of a new day in every life that believes in Jesus! They literally saw with their own eyes and understood that when He said He was going to die, He meant He was going to die. And when He said that He was going to arise, He meant that He was going to arise. They saw with understanding, and now they believed. Jesus had a real body; His body had been resurrected (not just His Spirit), and the nail prints proved that He was Jesus and not someone else.

## SUMMARY:

[www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html](http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html)





# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

Jesus had been crucified on Friday (or Thursday, as some believe). His body was in the tomb until the resurrection, which certainly took place before dawn on Sunday morning. Mary Magdalene arrives at the tomb on the first day of the week, early while it is still dark because she had a concern, that is, to take care of our Lord's body. She finds the stone rolled from the tomb and now her biggest concern is: who has taken the Lord's body? So she runs and comes upon Peter and John and tells them that Jesus is not in the tomb. They are curious and take off. John outruns Peter and gets there first and stoops and glances in, just seeing the linen clothes lying there, but doesn't go in (20:1-5).

Peter barges pass John and goes inside the tomb. Yes Mary is right, the "body" of Jesus is not inside the tomb, just His grave clothes all neatly laid, and the napkin folded that covered His head and face in place. Peter sees and wonders, while John sees and believes. For as yet they knew not (understood not) the scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. There was nothing else to do so they went home (20:6-10).

The timing of this event is about 12 hours after the first witness saw Jesus who had risen from the grave. The scene is a private home in Jerusalem. By evening the disciples and all are shut-up behind closed and locked doors in fear of the Jews. Jesus suddenly appears to them and says "*Peace be unto you*"(v.19) and "*then shows them the wounds in His hands and side*" (v. 20). (20:19-20).

