

**Context**

1] After Jesus' crucifixion, His body was placed in a tomb, late on Friday afternoon.  
 2] The women folk who had come with Him from Galilee, saw this, and then went away and prepared spices so they could return to anoint His body and ensure a proper burial. They couldn't do this immediately, as the next day was sabbath, (Saturday) the day of rest. So, they waited for Sunday to dawn.

**Intro**

1] I remember as a young man seeing a notice written by a coach on a wall in a college gym in Look out Mt Tennessee, USA said *'It ain't all over till it's all over and even when it's all over it ain't over!*  
 2] When do you give up on Jesus? We should take a lead from the women folk who had travelled with Him from Galilee '

**1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared.**

*i.e. This was Sunday morning; Jesus having been put to death on the Friday They went to put the spices they had prepared with Jesus body - these women were determined to give Jesus, belatedly albeit, the proper burial*

*Nb I remember in my 20s having become a Christian, going and apologising to someone who I had wronged 6 years before. Are there things you need to put right with others before God?*

*\*It is never too late to do what is right\**

**2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.**

*Nb Jesus is only referred to now in Luke's Gospel as 'the Lord Jesus' after His resurrection.*

*Paul writes to the church in Rome saying "He was declared to be the son of God in power according to the Spirit of Holiness, by His resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ **our Lord**"*

*\*Never give up searching for the Lord\**

**4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel.**

*I.e. Perplexed - is a word used for a response when experience didn't match up with known facts  
 nb Two men who stood before them were angels as they were later described on the Emmaus road.*

**5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?"**

*Nb The angels begin with a question – why do you.....?*

*\*Allow God's Word to question you\**

**6 (The angels said) He is not here but has risen."**

*\*Note – Is this the most important announcement ever made? Town criers, tabloid journalists, twitter and Facebook users - none has ever made a more crucial announcement - JESUS has risen\**

*Have you heard it? Do you believe it? Jesus has risen?*

**6b Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise."**

*Nb Son of Man? - Ambiguous title Jesus called Himself, in His coming as a human being*

*Cf His Prediction of his death in Galilee sometime before "the son of man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priest and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised"*

*\*GRACE God subjected Himself to sinful man\* He knew and He allowed it to happen*

*\*'....must be delivered....God's word must always be fulfilled \*'*

**8 And they remembered his words,**

*Cf a short time before, Jesus had repeated this prediction but it was "hidden from them and they did not grasp what was said. (18:34) but now they remembered'*

*\*Remember the words of Jesus\* - Do you hear them? Do you receive them?*

**9 and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest.**

*Nb the 11 were the apostles / All the rest would appear to be the women folk and his brothers*

*\*As the women did - Pass on the message – Jesus has risen\**

**10 Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles,**

*nb The women Jesus had healed / delivered in Galilee*

1) *Mary from Magdala ; she was demon possessed*

2) *Joanna wife of Chuza, a manager in Herod's household,*

3) *Mary mother of James*

*Nb the extremities - the lowest & highest of society and the most familiar(?)*

*lit 'Apostles' (sent ones') not 'the 11' (9) = an irony – the announcer are having to be told!*

*\*Jesus chose all types of the last, the women folk in this case, to be first to receive His message.\**

**11 but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.**

*nb Idle tale = word used by Greek medical writers describing babbling of a fevered, insane mind.*

*Cf later in the day (the apostles) eyes were opened and they recognised Him (24:31)*

*\*God needs to open eyes so that folk can see Himself\**

**12 But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marvelling at what had happened.**

*\*Check out the claims about Jesus for yourself\**

*\*Marvel at the empty tomb\**

## **Conclusion**

- 1] Don't give up seeking Jesus
- 2] God reveals himself / opens eyes to those He wills

**MP** *Jesus is alive*

**KV** *He is not here, but has risen (6a)*