

Sequence of Events of Resurrection

By Bill Lockwood

1. Women come to tomb early Sun a.m. before dawn (Mark. 16:2; Luke 24:1)
2. Mary Magdalene with them (Matt. 28:1; Mark 16:1)
3. They wondered how to gain entrance into tomb (Mark 16:3)
4. They saw stone rolled away (Luke 24:2; Mark 16:4; John 20:1)
5. Mary turns back immediately to tell disciples (John 20:2); “Ran to tell Peter and John” (Broadus, 585; McGarvey)
6. Peter & John begin quickly to tomb (John 20:3)
7. Other women (whom Mary M left) enter sepulcher (Mark 16:5; Luke 24:3). Tomb was empty. Note, John 20:1 does not say Mary even entered.
8. Two angels are present (Luke 24:4)
9. One angel sitting within (Mark 16:5). “Two men stood by them” (Joined by the other angel, Luke 24:4). Other gospels not mention BOTH angels, just as Luke does not tell us that John was with Peter as ran to tomb (24:12).
10. Angel said, “He is risen; Come see the place where he lay.” (This was evidential value because of grave-clothes). John later tells his vivid recollection of the scene in the tomb when he arrived (John 20:5ff).
11. Angel said, “God tell disciples.” “Why seek the living among the dead.”
12. Mark adds, “And tell Peter.” (Peter companion to Mark as he wrote?)
13. Fled from sepulcher (Mark 16:8).
14. Peter & John meanwhile hurry to tomb, arrive after women had left (John 20:4ff).
15. John, seeing evidence, first to believe (John 20:8).
16. Peter & John depart (John 20:10).
17. Mary Magdalene comes upon tomb presently, she does not leave but stands weeping.
18. Two angels appear to her (John 20:12,13); then Jesus Himself appears (20:14). This was first appearance to a follower (Mark 16:9).
19. Disciples (Mark 16:14) are “mourning and weeping” (16:10).
20. Luke summarizes all by saying (24:10) women *reported* to disciples, including Mary Magdalene.

*Why Mary Magdalene give different testimony than other women? Beasley-Murray (Word Biblical Commentary, p. 371). “The impression is that Mary took one look at the tomb and fled, without looking inside. If she had been joined by the other women, she must have left before they did. Moreover, if synoptic the synoptic traditions are to be rejected, her message was very far different from that which they were told to take to the disciples (Mark 16:7).”