

E A S T E R

Easter Matters

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Scripture: Mark 16:1–4; John 20:2; Luke 24:11–12; John 20:19; Luke 24:37–38, 44, 46–48; 1 Peter 1:3–4, 6, 18–19

Introduction

(Andy refers to intro video . . .)

1. Of course they didn't think so. We wouldn't have either. We don't find anyone standing outside Jesus' tomb on Easter morning counting down . . .
2. We find Jesus' closest followers doing exactly what we would expect them to do, since they expected Jesus to do what deceased people do.

Mark 16:1–4

¹ When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome **brought** spices so that they might go to **anoint** Jesus' **body**.

[They had believed he was a teacher and a miracle worker from God.]

[They had hoped he was the Messiah.]

[But then they seemed wrong: God would not have allowed the Messiah to be arrested and crucified.]

[They had followed Nicodemus and Joseph after the crucifixion. They watched them prepare the body. They were in shock.]

[They assumed the prep. "So just after sunrise . . ."]

² . . . they were on their way to the tomb ³ and they asked each other, "Who will **roll** the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴ But when they looked up, they **saw** that the stone, which was **very large**, had been rolled away.

[Luke: They entered. Empty! They did not assume a miracle. Grave robbers! They ran back to the city and found the disciples, who were hiding . . .]

John 20:2

"**They** have **taken** the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where **they** have put him!"

