



Materials I Need:

Legend:
 = Option 1, Appropriate for 1st – 2nd Grade
 = Option 2, Appropriate for 3rd – 6th Grade
Bolded Words in Story = Key Concepts to Highlight during the Bible Adventure

Memory Work:
“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at My hands and My feet. It is I Myself! Touch Me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.” Luke 24:38, 39

Aim Questions:

1. How were the women able to get inside the tomb?
2. When did the men from Emmaus finally recognize Jesus?
3. How did Jesus show His disciples that He was real flesh and blood?
4. Why wasn't Jesus found in the tomb? How is this important to us today?
5. Can you be a Christian if you aren't sure that Jesus rose again and is alive today? Why or why not?

Hook:

That's Hard to Believe (Role-play/Discussion). Have a very excited teacher tell the class that he has just seen a certain celebrity that the students would recognize (*like Barney or maybe even Elvis*) or something equally hard to believe. Have the teacher try for a short while to convince an unbelieving class that this is really true. **DEBRIEF:** In our Bible Adventure today, the disciples will hear a story from some women that they didn't believe at first. Luke 24:11 says, “They did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.” What was this incredible news?

Who's Who? (Discussion). Take the first few students who come early to class, and hide them in another room as the rest of the students arrive. Then, after class has begun, bring the hidden students back one by one with a hood or hat which covers their hair, a robe or long coat that covers their clothes, and sunglasses on each one as you bring him/her before the class. See if the other students can recognize each classmate. Isn't it amazing how little it takes to disguise a person? In our lesson today, we will hear about two men who didn't recognize someone they knew very well. Why didn't they know their friend?

Rumors (Discussion). Begin the lesson by telling the students one of the false stories of Jesus being taken from the tomb by people and not really rising from the dead. How can we know the truth of what really happened? (*By studying & believing what God's Word has to say*).

Celebrate! (Activity/Snacks). Have a party and celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead.



Book:

Presentation Ideas -



Video. Finish watching the “Jesus” video.



Peter at the Tomb (Illustration/Overhead). BLUK21.GF1.



On the Road to Emmaus (Illustration/Overhead). BLUK21.GF2.

Bible Adventure -

Last week our story had a very sad and difficult ending. Who remembers what happened to Jesus? (*Teachers, allow students to tell of Jesus' death on the cross.*) If history had ended there, we might as well pack up and go home today. But it didn't! Today everything changes. In today's Bible Adventure, we'll get to see the moment for which the Old Testament prophets longed. We'll see the Psalms fulfilled and the truths spoken of in the Law of Moses carried out. We're going to look at an incredible, amazing, miraculous time in history. Many of you already know what happens in today's Bible Adventure, but today maybe you can experience it again and relive some of the most incredible moments in Christian history.

It all started early Sunday morning, the third day after Jesus had been crucified on the cross and died for all of man's sins, yours and mine. The women who followed Jesus had just suffered through an incredibly hard weekend. The Master and Friend whom they so loved had been murdered, and they were devastated. What should they do now? So many of their hopes and dreams for the future, as well as for God's Kingdom, had died with Jesus on the cross. But even more than that, their beloved Lord and trusted Friend was now dead. He'd no longer walk with them, teach them, care for the sick, love the little children that came to Him or share in their lives. The women had waited and grieved all through the Sabbath, longing for Sunday when they could rush to Jesus' side. Very early Sunday morning, as soon as the sun's rays broke across the sky, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices and headed with heavy, breaking hearts to Jesus' tomb. **They didn't even know how they'd get into the tomb as the Romans had rolled a massive stone in front of the opening.** But they longed to be near Jesus and care for Him, so they continued. When they arrived at the tomb, something just wasn't right. **The huge stone had been rolled away and the tomb looked dark and quiet.** The women cautiously made their way into the tomb but were alarmed as Jesus' body was not lying where it should have been. As they stood wondering whether the body had been stolen or moved elsewhere, suddenly **two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.** The women were incredibly frightened. The angels spoke and asked them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? Jesus is not here. He is alive!" The men then reminded them that Jesus had told the women He would die but that He would rise again on the third day. Suddenly all Jesus had told them and tried to explain to them while He was alive came flooding back to them. For the first time ever, they began to truly understand God's plan for saving mankind through His Son. In wonder and amazement they fled from the tomb with the incredible words still ringing in their hearts, "He is alive." They would no longer weep for Jesus because He was no longer dead. He was and is alive!

The women quickly ran to where the eleven apostles were gathered and couldn't tell them fast enough what they'd seen. However, the men thought the women were full of nonsense and wouldn't believe them. Peter decided he needed to find out for himself what had happened, so he raced to the empty tomb (*place Illustration BLUK21.GF1*). He, too, could not find Jesus but only the strips of linen in which Jesus had been wrapped. Why couldn't he find Jesus? (*Teacher, let students answer - because Jesus was alive, amongst the living, not the dead!*) Peter left the tomb, wondering to himself what possibly could have happened.

Later that day, two of Jesus' followers took a trip to a village called Emmaus, not too far from Jerusalem, (*place Illustration BLUK21.GF2*). As they walked, they discussed what they'd seen and heard, going over all the different events that had happened while Jesus was alive. Suddenly Jesus joined them and began walking and talking with them. **However, they didn't realize it was Him as God kept them from recognizing Jesus, and besides, they weren't looking for Jesus - He was dead, right?** As they walked, Jesus explained to them how the Scriptures had been fulfilled, beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, concerning how Jesus was to come to earth, die for mankind and rise again. Upon approaching the village, they begged Him to stay with them. **It was at the dinner table while Jesus was breaking the bread and giving thanks that their eyes were opened, and they suddenly**

recognized Him. Jesus immediately disappeared from their sight. They got up at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found the Eleven and those with them all gathered together. "It is true!" they cried, "The Lord is alive."

While they were still talking, Jesus Himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were scared, thinking they saw a ghost. In His usual, patient way, Jesus calmed their fears and **showed them the wounds in His hands and His feet. He had them touch Him and feel His flesh and bones. He even ate with them to show them that He was real,** not some illusion or strange dream. Jesus again spoke to them from the Scriptures and showed them how prophecy about Him in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms had now all been fulfilled.


The disciples were amazed and thrilled and wanted Jesus to stay with them forever. However, He had something even better in mind. **Jesus told them He would send them what His Father had promised, a special Gift that would be even better than having Jesus with them in the form of a man.** In two weeks we'll see what this precious Gift, Jesus' final Present to His disciples, was.

Today it is your turn to make the biggest, most important decision of your life. Do you look for Jesus among the dead or the living? Do you believe that Jesus died for your sins but then leave Him hanging on the cross forever? Or do you believe that Jesus rose again on the third day and is alive today? The Bible tells us of many witnesses who saw Jesus alive. The women and Peter saw the empty tomb. The angels announced that Jesus is risen. The Bible tells us Jesus even appeared to more than 500 other people. How many witnesses will it take for you to believe? We all must make a decision. If you are still deciding whether or not you think Jesus really rose again, then you don't believe it. We are all headed for eternity; none of us can escape it. Where do you want yours to be?



Look:



Rolling Stone (Color Page/Craft).  Glue a small folded piece of muslin inside the tomb on **BLUK21.GF3 Pg.1.** Color the picture, then color and cut out the stone from **BLUK21.GF3 Pg. 2.**

Attach the stone at the off-center dot with a brad. This will allow the stone to be "rolled" away from the tomb. Luke 24:2,3 "They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus."



Open your Mind! (Worksheet). This is a thoughtful Bible drill. Jesus wanted His followers to understand the Scriptures because they spoke of Himself. As He traveled to Emmaus with Cleopas and his friend, Jesus explained to them, beginning with Moses and all the prophets, what was said to them in all the Scriptures concerning Himself, Luke 24:27. Later, Jesus was with His disciples who still didn't understand what had happened. He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about Me in the **Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.**" Luke tells us that He "**opened their minds** so they could understand the Scriptures," Luke 24:45. Look up these Old Testament verses that speak about Jesus. Next to each reference, write at least **3 key words** from the passage, **BLUK21.GF4.**



Journey with Jesus (Journal). Make a final entry in your journal. Any disciple (*except Judas*) might have written something like this:

I never expected Jesus to be crucified, but I'm surprised beyond belief by what happened on the third day after He died. Jesus rose from the dead! I know it's hard to believe. I didn't believe it myself at first. Some of the women saw the empty tomb and tried to tell us that Jesus was alive, but we didn't believe them - we didn't even understand them. But it's true! We've seen Him for ourselves!! And He's not a ghost. He told us to touch Him, and we watched Him eat! I'm so happy; but I'm a little embarrassed, too. We should have known all along that this would happen. Jesus tried many times to tell us that He would die and be raised on the third day. And the Scriptures said so, too. Jesus has been explaining the prophecies about Himself from the Law of Moses, the prophets and the Psalms, too. I'm going to spend the rest of my life telling the people that Jesus really is the Savior God promised so long ago!!

Seeking & Believing God's Word (Discussion). On the road to Emmaus, the Lord appeared to two who were questioning what had happened. What did the Lord explain? (*Scriptures.*) When the Lord appeared to the disciples, He again referred them to the Scriptures. See Luke 24:25-27 & Luke 24:44-45. Seeking what God wants us to do should be a priority in our lives. How can we know what God wants us to do if we do not seek His Word? We should seek the Holy Spirit and study God's whole Word to help us understand what it is God wants us to know to live our lives to glorify Him.

Jesus is Alive! (Worksheet). A witness is someone who tells what he knows from his own experience - what he has seen, heard, and even touched for himself. Jesus told His disciples, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day...You are witness of these things." Luke 24:46,48. There were many witnesses whose testimony proved that Jesus had really risen. Three groups of people met the risen Christ in Luke chapter 24. Take an inventory of their experiences: Who they were, where they were, what they saw, heard, and felt. Be specific, **BLUK21.GF5.**

Jumbled Verse (Worksheet). Cut apart the blocks. Mix up the pieces. Students can race in groups or individually to see who can get the verse in its correct order the fastest, **BLUK21.GF6.**

Luke 24 Crossword (Worksheet). Using your Bible, complete the crossword for Luke 24.
ANSWERS: Across: 3) Cleopas, 4) Jesus, 5) first, 7) forgiven, 9) empty, 11) repentance, 14) linen, 15) minds; Down: 1) Emmaus, 2) nonsense, 6) scriptures, 8) startled, 10) bread, 12) troubled, 13) third, **BLUK21.GF7.**

Breaking News (Role-play/Newscast). Continue the newscast from prior weeks, **BLUK21.GF8.**



Took:

His Final Week (Visual/Calendar). Review the events of Jesus' final week, and add Sunday, **BLUK21.GF9.** Reward students who can recite all eight days from memory.

Why Are You Troubled? (Worksheet/Group Discussion). Why were the disciples troubled? What caused their doubts? What caused you trouble in your life today? We need to walk and talk with God daily as He can take care of all our troubles, **BLUK21.GF10.**

Create a Card (Craft). We give cards to others for different days we celebrate such as birthdays and Christmas. Create a card celebrating Jesus' resurrection. Write inside your card what Jesus' resurrection means to you, **BLUK21.GF11.**

God's Odds (Bible Trivia/Discussion). What are the odds? Read and discuss the probabilities of the Old Testament prophecies being fulfilled in one man by chance, **BLUK21.GF12.**

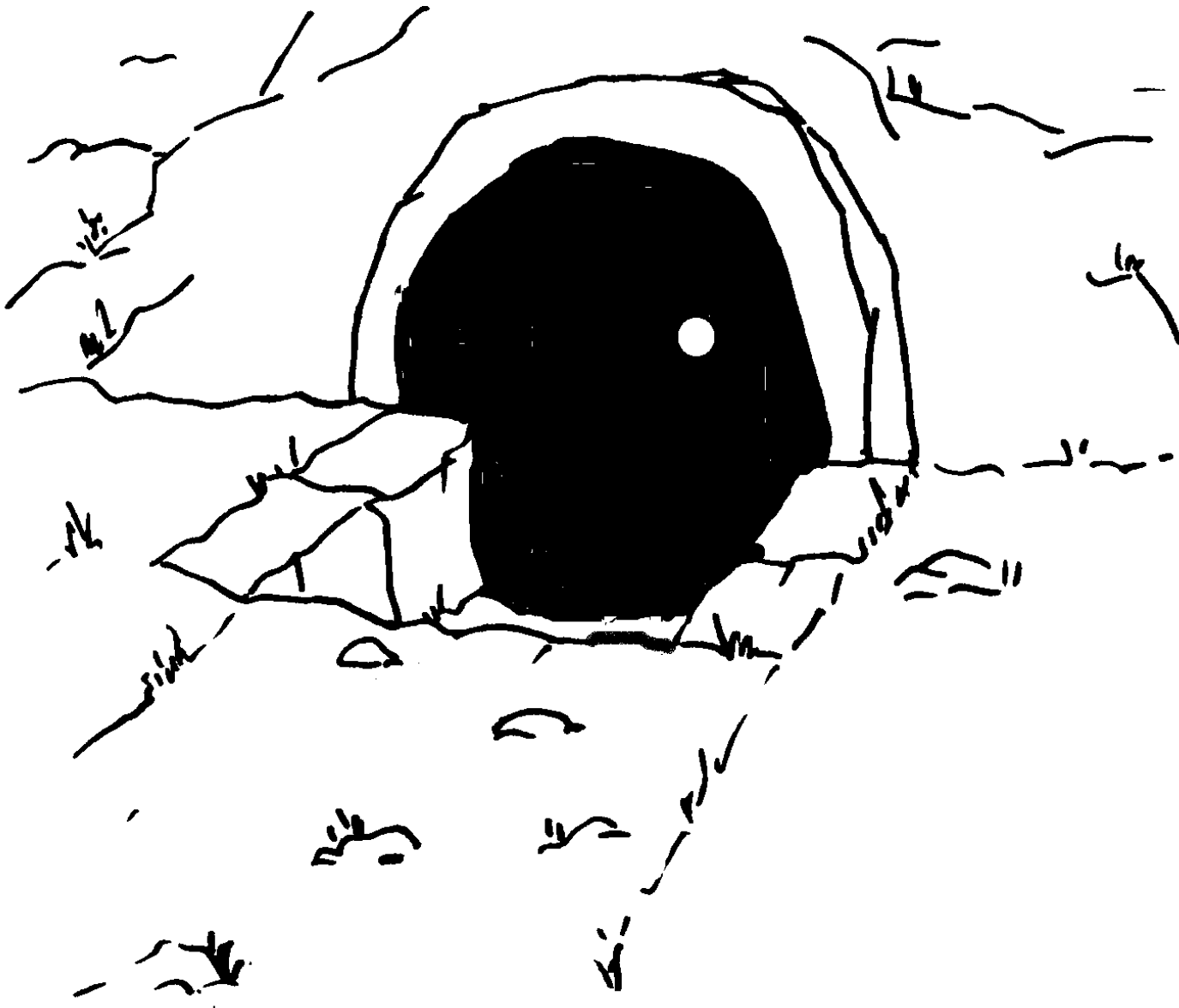
Peter at the Tomb



On the Road to Emmaus



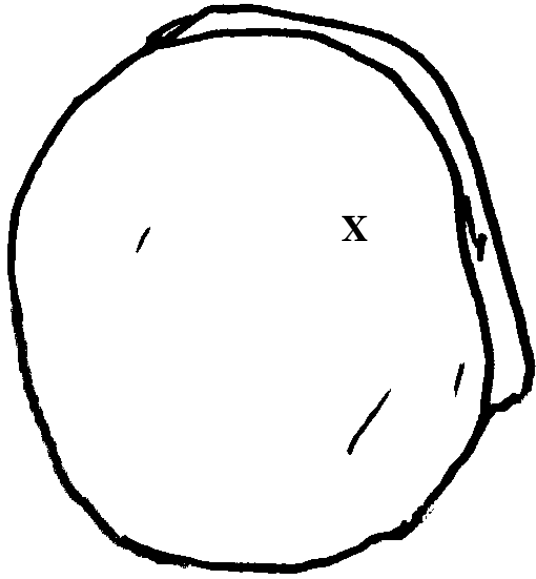
Rolling Stone



Rolling Stone

Instructions:

Color the picture of Jesus tomb on BLUK21.GF3 Pg. 1. Glue a small folded piece of muslin inside the darkened tomb. Color and cut out the stone on this page. Fit over the entrance to the tomb. Line up the X on the stone with the white dot at the entrance to the tomb. Attach with a brad. Roll away the stone from the entrance to the tomb.



OPEN YOUR MIND

A Thoughtful Bible Drill

Jesus wanted His followers to understand the Scriptures because they spoke of Him. As He traveled to Emmaus with Cleopas and his friend, Jesus, “beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself,” Luke 24:27. Later Jesus was with His disciples, who still didn’t understand what had happened. He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was with you: ‘Everything must be fulfilled that is written about Me in the **Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.**’”

Luke tells us that He “**opened their minds** so they could understand the Scriptures,” Luke 24:45.

*Law of
Moses*



Prophets

Psalms

Look up these Old Testament verses that speak about Jesus. Next to each reference, write at least **3 key words** from the passage.

Law of Moses

Genesis 3:15 _____

Genesis 18:18 _____

Genesis 49:10 _____

Deuteronomy 18:15 _____

Prophets

Isaiah 9:6,7 _____

Isaiah 53:3,4 _____

Isaiah 53:5,6 _____

Isaiah 61:1 _____

Jeremiah 23:5,6 _____

Daniel 9:25,26a _____

Zechariah 9:9 _____

Malachi 3:1 _____

Psalms

Psalms 16:10 _____

Psalms 22:6-8 _____





Psalms 22:16-18 _____

Psalms 118:22 _____

Jesus is Alive!

There were many witnesses whose testimony proved that Jesus had really risen. Three groups of people met the risen Christ in Luke chapter 24. Take an inventory of the experiences they would later tell. Who were they, where were they, what did they see, hear, and feel? Be specific.

WHO They Were

	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	Luke 24:1-8	Luke 24:13-32	Luke 24:12 and 24:36-45
WHERE They Were 			
What They SAW 			
What They HEARD 			
What They FELT 			

Jumbled Verse

Cut apart the following blocks. Mix up the pieces. Students can be in groups or individually race against each other and see who can get the verse in its proper order the quickest.

WHY ARE YOU TROUBLED,

AND WHY DO DOUBTS

RISE IN YOUR MINDS?

LOOK AT MY HANDS

AND MY FEET.

IT IS I MYSELF!

TOUCH ME AND SEE;

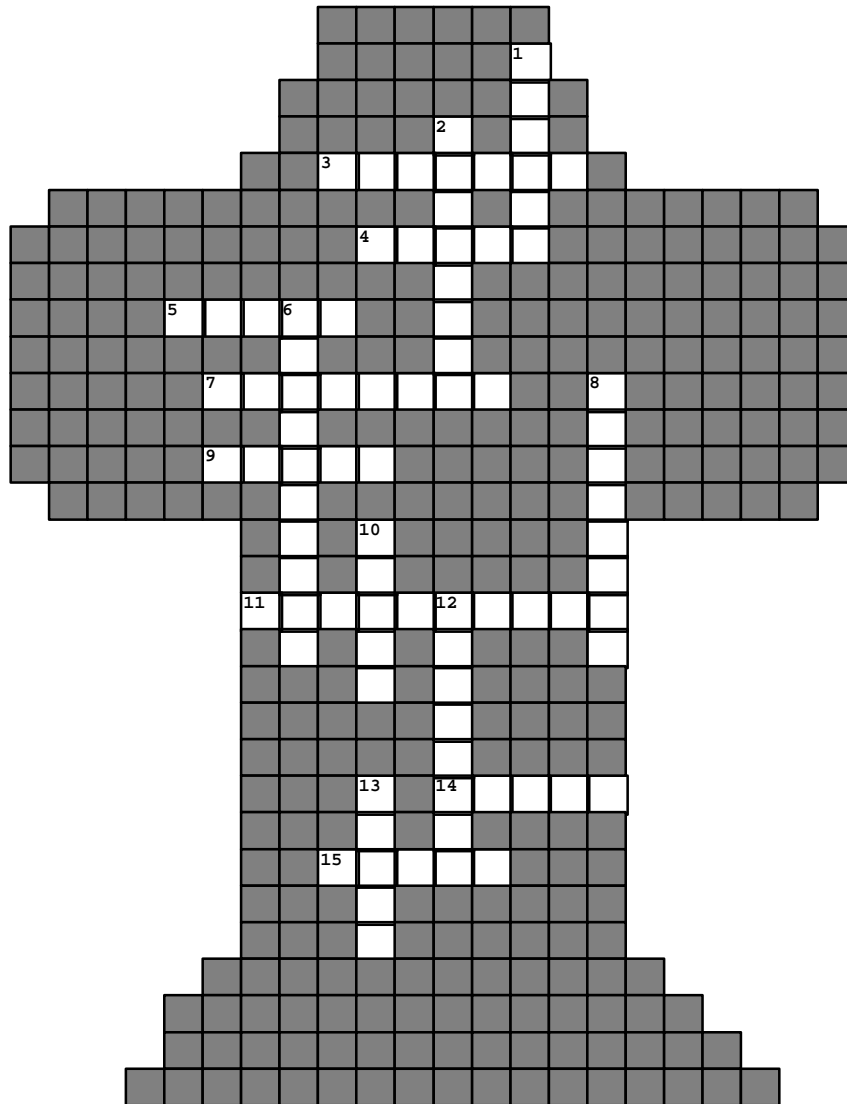
A GHOST DOES NOT

HAVE FLESH AND BONES,

AS YOU SEE I HAVE.

LUKE 24:38-39

Luke 24



ACROSS

3. The name of one of the two on the road to Emmaus.
4. Who came and walked with the two on the road to Emmaus?
5. What day of the week did the women go to the tomb?
7. Jesus died on the cross so our sins could be _____.
9. The tomb was found _____.
11. This would be preached in Jesus' name.
14. Peter saw strips of this lying in the tomb.
15. Jesus opened the disciples' _____ so they could understand Scripture.

DOWN

1. The village to where the two were headed.
2. The women's words seemed like this to the Eleven.
6. Jesus explained what to the two on the road to Emmaus?
8. The disciples were _____, thinking they saw a ghost.
10. Jesus broke this with the disciples when He appeared to them.
12. Jesus asked the disciples why they were _____ and doubts raised in their minds.
13. The day Jesus was raised from the dead.

Breaking News

Characters:

Peter: a news anchor

David: an on-site reporter

Peter: Good Morning, we interrupt your regularly scheduled programming to bring you this latest in the death of Jesus. Right now we have David Isaacs ready to broadcast live from the burial site of our slain King of the Jews, but first, a review of the events of last week. It was with heavy hearts last Friday that Jesus' body was laid to rest after being crucified along with two other criminals. Surprisingly, a man named Joseph, a member of the Council of Jewish leaders, is said to be the one who provided a tomb in which Jesus was buried. Sources say this man from Arimathea is a man of considerable wealth and had not consented to the Council's decision and actions regarding Jesus. It was he, himself, who asked Pilate for the body of Jesus and wrapped it in a linen cloth, carrying it to an unused tomb. The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph, saw the tomb and that His body was laid in it. They were unable to dress the body as is the custom because the Sabbath was approaching, and they were not allowed to carry out these tasks. David, what more do you have for us?

David: Well, Peter, I'm standing here in front Jesus' tomb and as you can clearly see this tomb is no longer sealed. This incredibly large stone was found just like this early this morning and the body of Jesus is nowhere to be found! As we enter here, you can see that the only sign of Jesus' presence are the strips of linen that was placed on Jesus' body when He was laid to rest. Some are saying that His body was stolen but other reports have been that He has come back to life!

Peter: Unbelievable turn of events, wouldn't you say? This has just come over the wire, David. There have been numerous sightings of Jesus reported since His burial. One of these is especially interesting. A report of two men headed to Emmaus states that they were walking along and a man came up and joined them. The two men apparently had been very sad about the disappearance of Jesus' body, not to mention the fact that their hopes of a Savior for Israel had gone up in smoke. This other man apparently started quoting Scripture after Scripture to them, and they ended up inviting Him to stay with them that night. As the story goes, it wasn't until He gave thanks for the meal and broke bread with them that they realized who the man really was. Then, in an instant, He disappeared before their very eyes! Some are saying it was just His ghost. Somewhat hard to believe, but noting the stir that Jesus of Nazareth has made, we all are not as skeptical as we once used to be. Jesus raised people from the dead, why not Himself? There was doubt among even His disciples but this, too, has been erased as now they are saying that they have seen Him actually eat! David, it will be interesting, to say the least, to see the Jewish leaders' reaction to these new reports. Could it be they did not succeed in ridding themselves of their so-called King, despite the security measures taken with the guards at the tomb site?

David: Yes, Peter, even the fact that a stone of this size would take many to roll away from the opening. With the guards standing by, it would be impossible for someone to steal His body without sounding an alarm. In looking back, it seems that there has been nothing ordinary about Jesus and His life. Why should we expect anything different regarding His death? I'm David Isaacs, reporting to you from the empty tomb of Jesus.

S

ONRISE SURPRISE

U

N

D

A

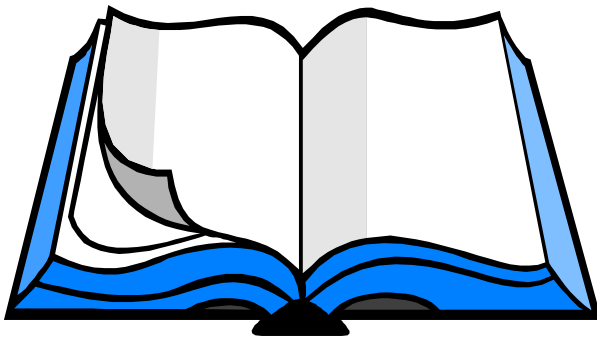
Y



Why Are You Troubled?

“Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at My hands and My feet. It is I Myself! Touch Me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

Luke 24:38 & 39



Why were the disciples troubled?

What caused the doubts that the disciples were having?

What causes you trouble in your life today?

Knowing that Christ died for my sins and believing He rose again will free us all from our troubles and doubts. Have you accepted Christ as your Savior to walk with Him and talk with Him daily?

This is what Jesus' resurrection
means to me:

Jesus Is Alive!

God's Odds

Could it be coincidence that all the Old Testament prophecies relating to the Messiah were fulfilled in one man? A mathematician and scientist named Peter Stoner decided to find out. He used recognized mathematical and scientific principles to figure out the probability that Jesus just **happened** to fulfill all the Old Testament prophecies. His findings were published in 1963 in "Science Speaks" - a Moody Press publication.

First, he considered just 8 prophecies of the Messiah. They were:

1. He would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
2. He would be preceded by a messenger (Isaiah 40:3 and Malachi 3:1)
3. He was to enter Jerusalem on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9)
4. He would be betrayed by a friend (Psalm 41:9 and 55:12-14)
5. He would be sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12)
6. The money would be thrown in God's House and used to buy a potter's field (Zechariah 11:13b)
7. He would not speak before His accusers (Isaiah 53:7)
8. His hands and feet would be pierced (Psalms 22:16)

Professor Stoner found that the "chance that any man might have lived down to the present time and fulfilled all eight prophecies is 1 in 10 to the 17th power. That is 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000 (one hundred quadrillion).

How many is this? Let's imagine that we filled this classroom completely from top to bottom with mini-marshmallows. This would take about 56 million mini-marshmallows. We would have to fill another room every **second** for about a **year** to use up 100,000,000,000,000,000 mini-marshmallows!

Professor Stoner helps us understand it this way: Suppose "we take 10 to the 17th silver dollars and lay them on the face of Texas. They will cover all of the state two feet deep. Now mark one of these silver dollars and stir the whole mass thoroughly, all over the state. Blindfold a man and tell him that he can travel as far as he wishes, but he must pick up one silver dollar and say that this is the right one. What chance would he have of getting the right one? Just the same chance that the prophets would have had of writing these eight prophecies and having them all come true in any one man, from their day to the present time, providing they wrote them in their own wisdom."

As amazing as this is, it's only the beginning. There are not just 8, but about **60** prophecies that Jesus fulfilled. Stoner next considered 48 of these predictions. He found the probability of one man fulfilling all 48, to be 1 in 10 to the 157th power. (To write this number, you put 157 zeros after the '1'.) This number is almost impossible to comprehend. Professor Stoner said that this many electrons (which are just part of an atom) would make an "inconceivably large volume."

What's the only conclusion to all this? That Jesus could not **possibly** have fulfilled all the Old Testament prophecies by coincidence. God, who knows the future, revealed details of Jesus' life to the prophets so that when He came, it would be impossible for an open heart not to recognize Him.