



## Rice Memorial MBC

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### **God's Love Triumphant**

Definitions in **bold letters** are from **Strong's** Exhaustive Concordance  
Other definitions are from **Webster's** Dictionary, 1828 Edition  
or Roget's Thesaurus - **April 16, 2017**

## **John 20:1-10, 1 Peter 1:3-5, 8-9**

**Introduction:** This morning many churches have a sunrise service. It is a unique and special way to remember the **resurrection** of our **Lord**, who **died** on the **cross**, but did NOT remain in the burial tomb. **Resurrection Sunday** is probably the most significant day on the Christian calendar.

*(Source: The Bible Expositor and Illuminator, Union Press Publication-Christian Life Series)*

Other accounts of this event are also found in Matt. 28:1-17, Mk. 16:1-13, and Lk. 24:1-12.

**John 20:1**, *The first day of the week cometh Mary Mag'dalene early, when it was yet **DARK**, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.*

**Thought 1.** Since this verse says, "it was yet DARK", it's NOT right to ignore it in studying.

**NOTE: While it was yet dark ...** The Christian student should not be confused or unsettled by the allegations of critical enemies who are ever seeking (in vain) to find some **"contradiction"** in the sacred Gospels. Mark's mention of the coming of several women, including Mary Magdalene, to the tomb, **"after the sun was risen"** refers to **another visit** to the tomb, Mary Magdalene having made at least two trips to the sepulchre, and probably three, as follows: (1) the first trip, as recorded here, while it was still dark, (2) the second when she followed Peter and John (whom she quickly notified) and who ran on ahead of her to the tomb, and (3) when she came with the other women bringing the spices after the sun was **risen**. John specifically stressed that the tomb was **"NIGH"** to the **cross** (John 19:42); and the sudden onset of the **HIGH Sabbath** at sunset prevented any of the witnesses from traveling after the burial. In all probability, none of those mentioned were any further away from the TOMB than a **few hundred yards**.

*(Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/bcc/john-20.html>)*

**John 19:41-42**, Now in the place where he was **crucified** there was a **garden**; and in the garden a **new sepulchre**, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' **preparation day**; for the sepulchre was **NIGH at hand**.

**John 20:2**, *Then she runneth, and cometh to **Simon Peter**, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved (John), and saith unto them, they have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know NOT where they have laid him.*

**NOTE:** Several things of consequence come to light in this verse. First, **John** deferred to the leadership of **Peter**, mentioning him first, thus confounding (abashing (embarrassing), and putting to shame and silence) the theory of the Gospel's being **anti-Petrine**. Not only was

Peter mentioned FIRST here, but "the **other disciple** whom Jesus LOVED" makes it apparent that the same designation belonged to Peter.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/john-20.html>)

**John 20:3-8, Peter** therefore went forth, and that **other disciple**, and **came to the sepulchre**. So, they **RAN both** together: and the other disciple did OUT RUN Peter, and came FIRST to the sepulchre. And stooping down, and looking in, **saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in**. Then cometh Simon Peter, and went into the sepulchre and **SEETH** the linen clothes lie, And the **napkin**, that was about his head, NOT lying with the linen clothes, but **wrapped together** in a place by itself. Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and **he SAW**, and **believed**.

**NOTE: Outrun Peter** - Not because he had a greater desire to SEE into the truth of these things; but because he was younger, and lighter of foot.

**Went he NOT in** - Why? Because he was fully satisfied that the BODY was NOT there.

**Seeth the linen clothes lie** - to behold, and, to see - to **look steadily** at any thing, so as to discover what it is, and to be satisfied with viewing it.

**Wrapped together in a place by itself** - The providence of God ordered these very little matters, so that they became the fullest proofs against the lie of the chief priests, that the body had been stolen away by the disciples. If the body had been stolen away, those who took it would NOT have stopped to strip the clothes from it, and to wrap them up, and lay them by in separate places.

**That other disciple** - John. **Saw** - That the body was NOT there. **And believed** - That it **had been TAKEN AWAY**, as **Mary had said**; but he did NOT believe that he was risen from the dead. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/acc/john-20.html>)

**John 20:9-10** For as **yet THEY ALL knew NOT** the **scripture**, that **HE must rise again** FROM the DEAD. Then the disciples went away again unto their own home

**Thought 1.** Notice, that they knew NOT the scripture that he must rise again... After all of this, Mary comes back with the other women at DAWN: the RISING of the sun.

**Matthew 28:1-2**, In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to **DAWN** (first appearance of LIGHT in the morning) toward the **first day** of the **week**, came Mary Mag'dalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great **earthquake**: for the "**angel of the Lord**" descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and SAT upon it.

**Mark 16:1-2** ...when the **Sabbath was past**, Mary Mag'dalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salo'me, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and **ANOINT** him. And very early in the morning, the first *day* of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the **RISING** of the sun.

**Luke 24:1**, Now upon the **first day** of the **week**, **very early** in the **morning**, they (*The women of Luke 23:55-56*) came unto the sepulchre, bringing the SPICES which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

**Thought 2.** Now, let's stop and look at the one big differences between a regular calendar and the Jewish. It's that the JEWISH DAY begins in the EVENING, at 6 p.m., or sunset.

**Genesis 1:5**, And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the **EVENING (night)** and the **MORNING** were the **FIRST day** (*Sunday*).

**Thought 3.** Another truth is there was more than ONE type of SABBATH day. Saturday: the SEVENTH day, which began at sunset on Friday, is the only Sabbath day about which a great number of Christians have learned. From that lack of knowledge comes several errors.

It begins with miscalculating the actual day Jesus died, which leads to an error about the number of days his body was in the grave. This results in NOT knowing the actual day of Jesus' resurrection. Beginning with their origin, let's look at the Sabbath dayS (*plural*).

**Leviticus 23:3-8**, **SIX** days shall work be done: but the **SEVENTH** day is the **Sabbath** of REST, an holy convocation; ye shall **do NO WORK** therein...

**Thought 4.** This is the “regular Sabbath.” And, as we know, it occurs every week!

These are the **feasts** of the Lord, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons. In the **fourteenth** day of the **first month** at **even (EVENING)** is the **Lord's passover**. ...the **fifteenth** day of the same month is the **feast of unleavened bread** unto the Lord: SEVEN days ye must eat unleavened bread. In the FIRST day ye shall have an **holy convocation**: ye shall **do NO servile work** therein. But ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord seven days: in the seventh day is an holy convocation: ye shall do **no servile work** therein.

**Thought 5.** Again, God says “no work” is to be done. These are special Sabbaths.

**Luke 22:7-8**, Then came the **feasts** of **unleavened bread**, when the **Passover** must be **killed**. And he (*Jesus*) sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the Passover, that we may eat.

**John 19:31**, The Jews therefore, because it was the **preparation**, that the bodies should NOT remain upon the cross on the **Sabbath** day, (for **THAT Sabbath day** was an **HIGH (BIG) day**,)... (*meaning NOT a Saturday: NOT a regular Sabbath*)

**NOTE:** This verse, beyond all others in the New Testament, casts doubt on the widely accepted view that Christ was **crucified** on **FRIDAY**. True, he was crucified on the day of Preparation, the day before the Sabbath; but John was careful to point out that the **ordinary Sabbath** was **NOT** meant, but rather the **HIGH day** (**also** a Sabbath, whatever day of the week it was) which always initiated the Passover celebration.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/john-19.html>)

**Thought 6.** Also, Jesus actually said how long his body would be IN the grave. Matt. 12:40.

**Matthew 12:40**, For as **Jonah** was THREE (3) days and THREE (3) nights in the WHALE'S belly; so shall the **Son of man** be **three (3) days** and **three (3) nights** in the heart of the **earth**.

**Thought 7.** So, if we believe he died on a Friday, was buried BEFORE sunset: 6 p.m.: the beginning of the Sabbath (Saturday), then, he was in the ground Saturday NIGHT (*Think Jewish Calendar*), Saturday during the DAY, and Sunday, NIGHT, which began at 6 pm. And since it was discovered on Sunday morning that he had been resurrected from the dead, then, dying on a Friday would at most be two (2) nights and one (1) day!

We can figure it out if we count in reverse, knowing the Jewish DAY **BEGINS** at 6 pm. In the EVENING (night). We'll begin with the DAYS (6.am - 6 pm) and go backward **THREE**; Saturday, Friday and Thursday, are **THREE** full days. The nights (6 pm - 6 am) in the grave were, Saturday (Our Friday night at 6 pm; so, think Jewish Calendar) Friday, and Thursday night, which actually **BEGAN** on Wednesday at **SUNSET**: 6 pm.

So, he was crucified on a **Wednesday** (*on the cross from 9 am - 3 pm*); during the **DAY**. His body was taken off the cross and in the grave before 6 pm because that evening, the beginning of Thursday, was the beginning of the **HIGH day**. That means he rose AFTER Saturday ended at sunset: the **BEGINNING** of Sunday **NIGHT**.

(Think Jewish Calendar) This ended the 3 days and 3 nights of which Jesus spoke. Next, let's look at the belief by some Christians that the "ANGEL of the Lord" is Jesus. These words by the ANGEL prove that HE and Jesus are TWO separate persons.

**Matthew 28:1-6**, And, behold, there was a great **earthquake**: for the "**ANGEL of the Lord**" descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: and for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the **ANGEL** answered and said unto the women, **Fear NOT** ye: for I know that ye **SEEK JESUS**, which was crucified. **HE** is NOT here: for he is **RISEN**, as he said. Come, see the place where the **Lord** lay.

**Thought 8.** If he WAS Jesus, he would have SAID so! He even said, "he is NOT here. And he didn't say, "I HAVE RISEN." So, the angel of the Lord is NOT Jesus. As the angel continues to speak, more proof of this truth is seen in HIS words.

**Matthew 28:7-8**, And go quickly, and tell **HIS** disciples that **HE** is **RISEN** from the DEAD; and, behold, **HE** goeth before you into **Galilee**; there shall ye see **HIM**: lo, I have told you. And they departed quickly from the sepulcher with **fear** and great joy; and did **run** to bring **HIS** disciples word.

**Thought 9.** Now, let's look at another account of the women at the tomb of Jesus.

**Luke 24:3-7**, And they **entered in**, and found NOT the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, **TWO MEN** stood by them in **shining** garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the **living** among the **dead**? **HE** is NOT here, but is RISEN: **REMEMBER** how **he** spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be **crucified**, and the **third day** **RISE** again.

**Thought 10.** Now, let's harmonize all three accounts to see what happened in regard to the angels. In Matthew 28:5, when the "angel of the Lord" first rolled away the stone he sat on it outside. But, when they entered the tomb, they see another angel in the form of a young man. He begins to speak with the women and then they see a second angel. Actually, this now makes THREE angels. Luke 24:5-7 also lets us know that both angels spoke to the women during this time.

So, when the women first entered the tomb, they saw one angel sitting, who began to speak to them. While he's talking, he stands up, and "behold, TWO" angels are now SEEN, standing by the women!

And one final thought is angels are **MALE** in gender. There are **NO FEMALE** angels. The only SPIRITS of the female gender are WOMEN. In this, women are unique in creation!

**1 Peter 1:1-3**, Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the **strangers (pilgrim [one that has only a temporary residence on earth])** scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, **Elect** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through **sanctification** of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. Blessed be **the God** and **Father** of our Lord (RULER) Jesus Christ...

**Thought 1.** Notice, he said Jesus' Father is also HIS God. He's referring to Yahweh, also known as Jehovah. This shows that even though they are equal in FORM: both are deity, they are NOT equal in RANK or POSITION.

**John 20:17**, Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto **my Father**, and your Father; and to **MY God**, and your God.

**Ephesians 4:4, 6**, There is... ..**One God** and Father of ALL, who is **ABOVE** (HIGHER in place, greater, exceeding) all, and through all, and IN you all.

**God defined 2316 theos pronounced *theh'-os*, a deity** (divinity [the state of being divine]), **the supreme** (Highest in authority, Highest) **Divinity**.

**1 Corinthians 11:3**, But I would have you know, that the **head** (leader) of every **man** (**husband**) is Christ; and the **head** (leader) of the **woman** (**wife**) is the **man** (**husband**); and the **head** (leader) of Christ is **God** (**supreme** [highest] **Divinity**).

**Thought 2.** Even though Jesus is AGAIN “a God”, he is NOT the Highest Divinity. Nor has he ever been the “Highest Divinity.” He’s the “Son of the Highest”, Lk. 1:32. The RANK of Highest Divinity is occupied only by the Father. And it always will be!

**1 Peter 1:3** ...which according to **his abundant MERCY** hath **begotten us AGAIN** unto a lively **HOPE** by the resurrection of Jesus Christ FROM the Dead...

**NOTE: God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ ...** The fountainhead of all blessing and salvation is God himself; and by these words Peter showed that Christianity was in no sense a departure from the God of Israel and of the Hebrew patriarchs, but was still a worship of that same God through the acceptance of God's only begotten Son; for the same God who is **the Father** of our Lord Jesus Christ is the very one who **HAS begotten us**.  
(Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/bcc/1-peter-1.html>)

**1 Peter 1:4-5** ...To an **inheritance** incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth NOT away, reserved in heaven for you, Who are **kept (protect)** **BY** the **power of God** **through faith** unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

**NOTE:** Preservation by God's power does not supersede (make void) man's endeavour (effort) and care for his own salvation; here are **God's power** and **man's faith**, which implies an earnest **desire** of salvation, a **RELIANCE** upon Christ according to his invitations and **promises**, a VIGILANT CARE to do every thing pleasing to God and avoid whatever is offensive, an abhorrence of temptations, a respect to the recompence of reward, and persevering diligence in prayer. By such a patient, operating, **conquering faith**, we are **KEPT** under the assistance of **DIVINE GRACE**, unto salvation; faith is a sovereign (supreme, unparalleled) preservative of the soul through a state of grace unto a state of glory. 4. This salvation is ready to be revealed in the last time.  
(Source: <https://www.studyight.org/commentaries/mhm/1-peter-1.html>)

**Thought 1.** This explains why we must “keep the faith” that God gave us when we heard and understood the gospel. It’s how we WERE saved, and will REMAIN saved.

**2 Timothy 4:7-8**, I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have **KEPT** the **FAITH**: Henceforth there is laid up for me a **CROWN** of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

**Romans 11:18-22**, Boast NOT against the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest **not** the root, but the **root** thee. Thou wilt say then, The branches were **broken off**, that I might be grafted in. Well; because of **unbelief** they were broken off, and thou standest by **FAITH**. Be NOT highminded, but **fear**: For if God spared NOT the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare **not** thee. Behold therefore the **goodness** and **SEVERITY** (harshness, strictness) of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, **IF** thou **CONTINUE** IN his goodness: **otherwise** thou also shalt be **CUT OFF**.

**1 Peter 1:6-7**, Wherein ye **greatly rejoice**, though now for **a season**, if need be, ye are in

*heaviness through manifold **TEMPTATIONS**: That the **TRIAL** of your **faith**, being much more precious than of **GOLD** that perisheth, though it be **TRIED with FIRE**, might **be FOUND** unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ...*

**Temptations defined 3986. peirasmos pronounced pi-ras-mos' from 3985; a putting to proof (by experience of evil, by implication, adversity (an event, or series of events, which oppose success or desire; misfortune; calamity; affliction; distress).**

**Trial defined 1383, trying** (try: **1.** To ESSAY (to try the **VALUE** and **PURITY** of metals. In this application, the word is now more generally written **ASSAY** [to try or **PROVE**, by examination or experiment, the quantity and purity of metallic substances.]); **2.** To purify (to make **PURE**).

**Thought 1.** As you can see, the word "TRY" has TWO meanings. Either our **FAITH** is tried to "PROVE the purity" or our faith is being tried to "MAKE it pure."

**2 Timothy 1:3-5** ...I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; when I call to remembrance the **unfeigned (undissembled, sincere [PURE; unmixed]) FAITH** that is **IN thee**, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois...

**Jude 1:20**, But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your **most HOLY FAITH**, praying in the Holy Ghost...

**Thought 2.** As we see, the faith that God gave all of us is a "most **HOLY** faith." In other words, the **FAITH** that we were given is ALREADY "PURE." It's NOT being refined: **MADE PURE**.

**NOTE:** There are many different ways that the **fineness (PURITY) of gold** can be measured. This process is known as **assaying (TESTING)**, and can be done in multiple methods, depending on the accuracy needed and the ease and speed of measuring, which is important in some cases. **FIRE assaying** is the **MOST accurate method** of **MEASURING gold PURITY**.  
Source: <http://www.usgoldcoinauctions.com/gold-purity>

**Job 23:10** ...but **he** knoweth the **way** that I take: *when he hath **tried (EXAMINED)** me, I shall come forth as **GOLD** (metallic element, constituting the most **PRECIOUS** metal used as a common commercial medium of exchange).*

**Thought 3.** Job didn't say when God hath refined: PURIFIED me. What he **DID** say is when I'm "TESTED", he'll **SEE** that I'm **PURE** like gold in **HIS** eyesight.

**1 Peter 1:8-9** ...Whom having NOT seen, **ye LOVE**; in whom, though now ye **SEE** him **NOT**, yet **BELIEVING**, ye **rejoice** with **JOY** unspeakable and full of glory: **Receiving the END of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.**

**NOTE: not having seen, ye love** -- though in other cases it is knowledge of the person that produces love to him. They are more "blessed that have NOT seen and yet have believed," than they who believed because they **HAVE** seen. John 20:29 On Peter's own love to Jesus, compare John 21:15-17. Though the apostles had seen Him, they now ceased to know Him merely after the flesh.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/jfu/1-peter-1.html>)

**1 Peter 1:10-11**, Of which salvation the **prophets** have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the **grace** that should come unto you: Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was **IN (upon, WITH)** them did **signify (make plain by words)**, when it **testified BEFOREHAND** the sufferings of Christ, and the GLORY that should follow.