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The Case  
For Easter

- Why is the resurrection at the core of the Christian belief?
- Was the body really gone or was the resurrection simply a *Spiritual* event?
- How secure was the tomb?

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The Case  
For Easter

- What factors give evidence that the tomb was truly empty?
- What are some of the alternative theories?
- There are discrepancies between the 4 Gospel accounts. Does this mean that there are errors in the Bible?

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Comparing the Resurrection Stories By Cholee Clay				
	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Time of day	At dawn on the first day of the week	Very early on the first day of the week (just after sunrise)	Very early on the first day of the week	Early on the first day of the week (still dark)
Who went to the tomb	Mary Magdalene & the other Mary	Mary Magdalene, Mary (James' mother), & Salome	The women	Mary Magdalene
Events that occurred	Violent earthquake; Angel speaks to them; Women meet Jesus	Women bought spices; Angel speaks to them; Women fled tomb, but said nothing	Women take spices to tomb; 2 angels appear; Angel speaks to them; Told the disciples what they found	Mary Magdalene ran to get Simon Peter; Simon Peter and the other disciple went to the tomb; disciples left and Jesus appears to Mary

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### Comparing the Resurrection Stories By Cholee Clay

	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
The angels	One Angel came down from heaven, whose appearance was like lightning; clothes were white as snow	Young man dressed in white robes sitting on the right side	2 men appeared in clothes that gleamed like lightning; stood beside them	2 angels in white seated where Jesus' body had been (one at the head other at the foot)
Jesus' words	"Greetings"; "Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me"			"Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"; "Mary"; "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. I am returning to my Father, and your Father, to my God and your God."

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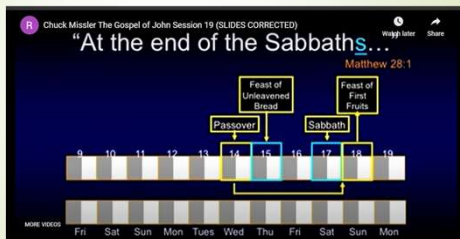
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- If Jesus was put in the tomb on Friday and resurrected on Sunday, how could He have been in the grave 3 days?



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**John 20:1-4** Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first.

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John 20:1-4

- What significant events occurred over 3 days?
- Why was the stone removed?
- How do we know that the body was not stolen?
- Did the Jewish leaders fear a resurrection?

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John 20:5-10 And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying *there*; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying *there*, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.

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John 20:5-10

- Why didn't John enter the tomb when he first got there?
- What did John believe after seeing the grave clothes?

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