

“THE IMPOSSIBLE ASSIGNMENT”

Introduction:

Matthew 27:57-66 “As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus’ body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb. The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. ‘Sir, they said, ‘we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, After three days I will rise again. So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first.’ ‘Take a guard,’ Pilate answered. “Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how.’ So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.”

- _____ men don’t need to be guarded from coming out.
- The grave was guarded to keep _____ men from going in.
- The authorities expected to _____ Jesus **in** the grave.
- The followers expected to _____ Jesus **in the** grave.

Matthew 28:1-6a “After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.’”

TWO OBSERVATIONS:

1. The _____ of Easter. Jesus died... and Jesus arose from the dead.
2. The _____ of Easter.

Matthew 28:2 “There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.”

- STONE represents the _____.
 - The stone _____ the women from Jesus.
 - The angel _____ on the stone.

THREE THINGS THE ANGELS SAY TO THE WOMEN:

Matthew 28: 6b "Come and see the place where he lay."

1. _____ and _____.

Corinthians 15:55-57 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

- Story of the bee... "He will never ____ again."

2. _____ and _____.

Matthew 28: 7-8 () "Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you.. So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples."

- The women went to the grave yard _____ and _____.
- The women left the grave yard _____ and ag_____.

3. **The women _____ Jesus.**

Matthew 28:9-10 "Suddenly Jesus met them. 'Greetings,' he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'"

- Jesus takes the _____.
- The disciples get another _____.

CONCLUSION: Easter means Jesus gives second _____!