

BIBLE STUDY: LESSON 34

Scripture of Lesson: John 20: 1~31

1. Empty tomb and the first appearance

- a. Believing women were eager to embalm the Lord's body on the day after the Sabbath. And the Lord appeared to them first: Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary (mother of James) and other women. [Luke 24: 10]
- b. Two angels told them of the Lord's resurrection. [Luke 24: 4~7]
- c. Peter and John, upon hearing the women's report, went to verify the empty tomb. [John 20: 2~9]
- d. Historicity of the Lord's resurrection has been established firmly by the empty tomb.

2. First meeting with the disciples

- a. A special appearance to Mary Magdalene: John 20: 11~18
 - He will reveal Himself to us when we earnestly seek Him.
 - *"Blessed are they that keep His testimonies and that seek Him with the whole heart."* [Ps 119: 2]
- b. The Lord's resurrected body: *"Do not touch me, for I have not yet ascended to my Father."* [v. 17]
 - *Resurrection body: immortal body, suitable for eternity with God [I Cor 15: 35~54]*
 - *The body of the resurrected Christ had marks of suffering and death, enabled Him to eat food, live beyond the physical constraints of the earth and surroundings.*
- c. *"As my Father has sent me, so I send you."* [v. 21] – Disciples of Christ are being sent by Him through special calling.
 - *"And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" [Rom 10: 15]*
- d. Doubting Thomas came to believe upon seeing the wound marks on the Lord's body.
 - *"Blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed."* [v. 29]
- e. John's purpose of writing the gospel story—*"that you may believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that by believing you might have life through His name."* [v. 31]
 - *Let the gospel story work a miracle of true life in us and let's spread the gospel to others around us.*

3. Joy and power of resurrection

- a. Crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ form the core of the Christian gospel.
 - I Cor 15: 13~14 *"But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: and if Christ be not risen, then our preaching is vain, and your faith is also vain."*
- b. Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ eternal life comes to those who believe and accept Christ as their Lord. –
 - I Cor 15: 22 *"If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now Christ is risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of those who slept. For since by man came death, by Man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive; but every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward those who are Christ's at His coming."*