

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Explain what may have taken place in the hearts of Jesus' friends at the time of His burial.
2. Who announced the resurrection of Jesus?
3. To whom was the announcement made? Does this have significance?
4. How was the news of Jesus' resurrection received?

SUMMARY:

It must have been a bleak and dismal time when Jesus died on the cross and a heartrending experience to lay Him in the tomb. All hope was destroyed, but love for Jesus prompted a few to return to the sepulcher to do the last things necessary for His complete burial.

Then the terrifying experience of seeing the empty tomb! However, this was only short lived because it was followed by the "almost unbelievable" announcement that He had risen. [\[SoF:5\]](#) Acceptance of the announcement was based more on love for Jesus and simple-minded obedience because the basis of faith had not been established. It was only later that they remembered what Jesus had told them.

NOTES:

[\[SoF:5\]](#) We believe in Christ's bodily resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God, and that He will make a personal return to earth in power and glory. [\[SoF:7\]](#) We believe that sinners may have salvation by repentance toward God and faith in Jesus Christ the risen.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #1

April 1, 2018

Second Quarter

HE LIVES—FOREVERMORE !

LESSON TEXT: *Luke 23:50-56; 24:1-12*

LESSON SETTING: In the garden of Joseph of Arimathaea in Jerusalem.

TIME: Approximately 33 A.D.

I. JESUS BURIED. Luke 23:50-56

- A. Prepared for Burial (vs. 53) Matthew 27:59; Mark 15:46; John 19:39-40
- B. A Special Burial Site (vs. 53) Matthew 27:60; Mark 15:46; John 19:41-42
- C. Burial Witnessed by Others (vs. 55) Matthew 27:61; Mark 15:47

II. RESURRECTION ANNOUNCED. Luke 24:1-7

- A. Announcement Made To: (vs. 1-5) Matthew 28:1-5; Mark 16:1-6; John 20:11-16
- B. Announcement Made By: (vs. 4-7) Matthew 28:5-6; Mark 16:5-6

III. THE NEWS DECLARED. Luke 24:8-12

- A. The News. (vs. 6-8) Matthew 28:9; Mark 16:9; John 20:17
- B. The Witnesses (vs. 10) Matthew 28:10; Mark 16:10; John 20:18
- C. The Acceptance [\[SoF:7\]](#) (vs. 11) Matthew 28:11; Mark 16:11

GOLDEN TEXT: . . . WHY SEEK YE THE LIVING AMONG THE DEAD?

Luke 24:5

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Luke 23:1-25

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Psalm 69:16-20; Isaiah 53:1-12;
Matthew 27:15-26; Mark 15:1-15;
John 18:28-40; 19:4-16

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ, the Son of Man

TOPIC: DECIDING ABOUT CHRIST

INTRODUCTION:

Christ died for all mankind. Therefore, every person must make a decision concerning Him. They must either accept or reject Him. To accept Him means joy and happiness in this life and eternal bliss in the next life. To reject Him means destruction eternally.

Pilate was a coward unable to stand up for what he believed. He did not find any guilt in Jesus, worthy of death, but was too weak to resist the Jews. Unconverted people are too weak to resist the devil, who does all in his power to cause a person to reject Christ.

Only if a sinner calls upon God for help and chooses to accept Christ, can he do so. The choice remains with the person. He must make the decision, but God gives him the strength to repent and be converted. Our responsibility is making the choice and upon this choice rests our eternal consequence.

How awful will be our remorse, our regrets in everlasting destruction, if we made the wrong choice while the opportunity was given us. We cannot delay in making this most important choice, accepting Christ now, while there is still time. May God grant each one the grace to accept Christ.

CENTRAL TRUTH: The greatest decision facing any person is whether or not to accept Christ.

GOLDEN TEXT: WHAT SHALL I DO THEN WITH JESUS WHICH IS CALLED CHRIST?

Matthew 27:22

God had created man in His own image, and placed him on earth with freedom of choice, to obey or disobey. Man disobeyed and received the power to know good and evil, and freedom to choose between the two. The power to do only good was lacking, but God honored those who in weakness, tried to obey Him and chose what was right. Through the leaders that He appointed to guide His people, God was ever encouraging the right choice. "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: Therefore choose life." (Deuteronomy 30:19) "Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season." (Hebrews 11:25)

The choice was given to Pilate and he chose Barabbas. Today everyone who knows of Christ's death and resurrection must also choose what to do with Jesus. Will we reject Him and choose death, or will we accept Him and the plan of salvation and choose life? God's will for us today, as always, is that we choose life through His Christ.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF April 2 – 8

- M. A Faith-filled Decision. Genesis 12:1-8
- T. A Foolish Decision. Genesis 13:5-13
- W. A Courageous Decision. Joshua 24:14-22
- T. Ruth's Considerate Decision. Ruth 1:8-18
- F. *Pilate Faces a Decision. Luke 23:1-17
- S. *Pilate Makes His Decision. Luke 23:18-25
- S. Moses' Selfless Decision. Hebrews 11:23-28

Visit www.accfoundation.org for this and other Bible class lessons