

# HALLELUJAH!

WHAT A SAVIOR

JESUS, OUR FUTURE

Mark 16:1–7

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## RELATED SCRIPTURES

Romans 6:5–11 | 1 Corinthians 15:20–23 | 2 Corinthians 5:17

## STUDY FOR SERMON FROM 04.20.25

### SUMMARY

Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Salome went to visit the tomb of Jesus with the intent of anointing his lifeless body. This custom was practiced *not* to preserve the corpse but to show respect and devotion to the departed loved one. The passage tells us that once they arrived, they would need assistance moving the rock to the tomb's entrance, as they would not be able to do so alone. However, to their surprise, the tomb entrance had already been set aside. We learn from the gospel of Matthew that it was a great earthquake that moved the stone aside; God himself opened the tomb. Upon entering the tomb, a "man dressed in a white robe" greeted them; the other gospel writers further describe the man with characteristics similar to that of an angel. The women are undoubtedly surprised and afraid, and the angelic being comforted them, proclaiming, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here." Beyond this, the angel tells them to go and tell the other disciples *and Peter* that he has been raised. This specific instruction indicates that Peter had not been rejected—even more, forgiven—by Christ despite Peter's earlier public denial, a gesture indicative of all of Christ's followers, past and present. Christ's resurrection makes several crucial statements, including his unequivocal power over death and the Father's affirmation that Christ was not guilty of the sins he bore. But the ultimate statement for all his followers is that his resurrection serves as a deposit; one day, we will be raised just as he has been raised—this is his guarantee to us: *Your future* has been sealed.

### GROUP QUESTIONS

Share something that surprises, encourages, or troubles you from the sermon or your direct reading of Mark 16:1-7.

The church often speaks about "Jesus dying on the cross," but why is the resurrection just as important? If Jesus died to pay for our sins, what did his resurrection do?

If Jesus wasn't raised from the dead, of what significance is that? What would this mean for all those who chose to follow him? What makes the resurrection unique as compared to other religions?

If there's one thing Jesus would want you to walk away believing and receiving as a result of this portion of Scripture, what is that thing?

### CLOSE IN PRAYER

As you pray, be sure to include today's themes in what you bring before God.