

LUKE

Leon L. Combs, M.A., M.Div., Ph.D.

Chapter Twenty Four

Luke 24:1-7

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. (2) And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, (3) but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. (4) While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing; (5) and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead? (6) "He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, (7) saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."

What a wonderful way to continue this section! The word “but” tells us that what had happened previously was not permanent. Of course the resurrection is critical for the Christian: *But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; (14) and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain.* (1 Cor 15:13-14) The first day of the week is Sunday so the women came to the tomb at daybreak with spices they had prepared. All four gospels specify the day of His resurrection to be on Sunday and so this day became the day of Christian worship: *On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.* (Acts 20:7)

The last Jewish Sabbath recognized by God ended with the Lord’s triumph over death. The Sabbath represents rest and Jesus said: *"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.* (Matt 11:28) Jesus came to bring the true Sabbath of God to a people who rejected Him but on the first day of the week when the first fruits were brought He was resurrected:

- Lev 23:10-11 *"Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you enter the land which I am going to give to you and reap its harvest, then you shall bring in the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest. (11) 'He shall wave the sheaf before the LORD for you to be accepted; on the day after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.*
- 1Cor 15:20-24 *But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. (21) For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. (22) For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. (23) But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, (24) then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.*

Thus the plan of redemption is complete and the Sabbath is now available for all those who are in Christ:

Heb 4:9-11 *So there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. (10) For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His. (11) Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience.*

Just as God rested from His work, so should all those who are in Christ Jesus for He accomplished the redemption for us and we totally rest from any attempts to attain that righteousness. The works of Jesus Christ abolished death and brought life and immortality to all those who are in Christ:

2Tim 1:9-10 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was granted us in Christ Jesus from all eternity, (10) but now has been revealed by the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

We know from Mark 15:47 that Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph had been watching so they knew where the body was placed and then they had returned to prepare spices and perfumes. I would expect them first to be horrified to find the stone rolled away from the tomb as they had experienced disaster after disaster with the horrible treatment of Jesus and then His death by crucifixion. They continued to enter the tomb and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. Had someone come along and desecrated the body further? Had someone come and stolen the body for some horrible purpose? No doubt they continued to discuss the matter between them until suddenly two men suddenly stood near them. They were wearing dazzling clothing that further mystified their sudden appearance. The women were terrified at this appearance and fell to the ground in a show of worshipful attention. Even though they had been with Jesus during His ministry and certainly heard Him tell how He must die and then be resurrected, this was probably not on their minds at this point.

The report by Mark is a bit different:

*Mark 16:5-6 Entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed. (6) And he *said to them, "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him.*

Luke continues saying that the men apparently spoke in unison as they give two mild rebukes to the women. The first is in the form of a question regarding why they are seeking the living among the dead. The second mild rebuke is meant to remind them of how Jesus spoke to them when He was still in Galilee:

- Luke 9:22 saying, *"The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed and be raised up on the third day."*
- Luke 9:44 *"Let these words sink into your ears; for the Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men."*
- Luke 18:32-33 *"For He will be handed over to the Gentiles, and will be mocked and mistreated and spit upon, (33) and after they have scourged Him, they will kill Him; and the third day He will rise again."*

They should have been expecting these events to occur as prophesied by Jesus but the shock of His horrible death probably excluded such an occurrence. Although Jesus had raised people from the dead they continued to die and a resurrection had never occurred.

Luke 24:8-12

*And they remembered His words, (9) and returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. (10) Now they were Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James; also the other women with them were telling these things to the apostles. (11) But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them. (12) But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he *saw the linen wrappings only; and he went away to his home, marveling at what had happened.*

After being rebuked by the angels, the women remembered the words of Jesus and it seems that they really believed as they reported the event to the apostles and others. Luke then identifies the women but Mark does not name Joanna: *When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him.* (Mark 16:1) Jesus certainly had told the men the same prophecies about His coming death and resurrection but they also did not remember or never chose to believe Him. The words of the women then appeared to the men as nonsense and they did not believe the reports. This report serves a purpose of showing that they had not been expecting such an occurrence and would not have been susceptible to hallucinations as some have claimed. Luke then reports that Peter has rejoined his fellow apostles after his denial of Jesus. Perhaps he does remember some of the statements of Jesus and now chooses to go see for himself the situation at the tomb. John gives a bit more detail about what Peter found at the tomb and tells us that another disciple went with Peter:

*John 20:3-9 So Peter and the other disciple went forth, and they were going to the tomb. (4) The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first; (5) and stooping and looking in, he *saw the linen wrappings lying there; but he did not go in. (6) And so Simon Peter also *came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he *saw the linen wrappings lying there, (7) and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself. (8) So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed. (9) For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.*

Peter then went away from the tomb marveling at what he did not find.

Luke 24:13-16

And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. (14) And they were talking with each other about all these things which had taken place. (15) While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and began traveling with them. (16) But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him.

This encounter with Christ is mentioned in Mark 16:12, but only St. Luke records this story with many details (Luke 24:13-35), and the Gospel of Luke is the only New Testament book which mentions the town of Emmaus. We do not know the precise location of Emmaus but several cities have been proposed that are about the distance from Jerusalem as noted by Luke. These two men are identified in verse 18 as Cleopas and his companion and they must be of the "all the rest" mentioned in verse 9 above. They were distraught over the horrible treatment and death of Jesus and they seem to be returning to their home with little hope as they discussed the events. Jesus then joined them and began making the trip with them. However God prevented them from recognizing Jesus. This is not the first time the true identity and mission of Jesus has been hidden from disciples:

- Luke 9:45 *But they did not understand this statement, and it was concealed from them so that they would not perceive it; and they were afraid to ask Him about this statement.*
- Luke 18:34 *But the disciples understood none of these things, and the meaning of this statement was hidden from them, and they did not comprehend the things that were said.*

The encounter between the resurrected Jesus and two of His disciples on the road to Emmaus is one of twelve post-Resurrection appearances of Jesus recorded in the New Testament with eight of these encounters recorded in the Gospels (see the end of this chapter for the list).

Luke 24:17-20

And He said to them, "What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?" And they stood still, looking sad. (18) One of them, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, "Are You the only one visiting Jerusalem and unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?" (19) And He said to them, "What things?" And they said to Him, "The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, (20) and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him.

These two disciples are certainly representative of the state of mind of all the disciples at this point. They are sad, disillusioned, disappointed, and in despair of their future. They thought that Jesus was dead and they did not believe the statements from the women about seeing the empty tomb and the angels (24:11). If Jesus were truly dead then their walk with Him had been in vain and they may be in danger from some retribution of the Jewish religious leaders also. The intrusion of Jesus with His question is rather like someone asking people leaving a super bowl game why they were discussing what had happened. They stood still and looked at Jesus rather sadly. They certainly thought everyone knew what had happened. Cleopas asked Jesus if perhaps He was the only person recently visiting Jerusalem who did not know what had happened. His name is the shortened form of Kleopatros that is the masculine name of Cleopatra but we know nothing about him since this is the only mention of him. It is ironic in that Jesus is the only one who knows precisely what has happened as the city did not recognize His visitation: *and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.*" (Luke 19:44)

Jesus then asked them a probing question to get them to discuss the events from their very limited perspective. They told Jesus that the events were about Jesus the Nazarene who was a prophet and had done great deeds and taught great lessons from God to all the people. They then told Him that the chief priests and other rulers delivered Jesus to death by crucifixion. However they either do not remember His prophecy about His death and resurrection or they thought that such a prophecy had been wrong in which case He would not have even been a prophet.

Luke 24:21-24

"But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened. (22) "But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, (23) and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive. (24) "Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but Him they did not see."

These men tell Jesus that they had thought He was the promised nationalistic Messiah who would redeem Israel from their oppression. Israel had only recently returned from Babylonian exile and remained in subjection to Rome. They then state that in spite of all that had happened to Jesus it was now the third day since those events. This makes me think that they did remember what Jesus had prophesied and, since it now was the third day without His return from death, they now were totally despaired as they thought He was a false prophet. They told Jesus that some women amazed them with a story about going to the tomb and finding the body gone. They said that the women told them that they had a vision of angels who had told them that Jesus was alive. They further told Jesus that some of them had also gone to the tomb and found it empty but Jesus was not there in a resurrected form. An empty tomb could be explained in several ways such as someone had stolen the body to pretend that He had been brought back to life or someone had stolen the body to further desecrate it as some of the evil ones might want to do. Just finding an empty tomb did not give them any hope.

Luke 24:25-27

And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! (26) "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?" (27) Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

Jesus calling them slow of heart does not mean that they are intellectually inferior but that their conscience did not allow them to believe as it reveals an ethical failure. They had many prophecies that should have led them to believe but they put all such aside as they only used their human logic. Jesus tells them that if they had only believed the prophets they would have been led to believe that the true Messiah must so suffer and be killed and then resurrected. Paul and Peter would later make the same explanation:

- Acts 17:2-3 *And according to Paul's custom, he went to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, (3) explaining and giving evidence that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you is the Christ."*

- 1Peter 1:10-11 *As to this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace that would come to you made careful searches and inquiries, (11) seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow.*

Jesus then gave them a lecture on the work of God toward a way of salvation for His people as He started with Moses and all the prophets to explain that all those prophecies related to Him. He had previously opened the scriptures to show that the prophecy was fulfilled in Him:

Luke 4:16-21 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read. (17) And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written, (18) "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED, (19) TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD." (20) And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. (21) And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

This section is very important to link the OT and NT teachings as coming from the same source: God. They are all connected and must be studied together as Jesus gave an apologetic example.

Luke 24:28-30

And they approached the village where they were going, and He acted as though He were going farther. (29) But they urged Him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is getting toward evening, and the day is now nearly over." So He went in to stay with them. (30) When He had reclined at the table with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it, He began giving it to them.

The Lord would have just kept going away if they had not urged Him to stay with them. The Lord has to open our minds to Him and then we must know more about Him as happened to Lydia wanting to know more about what Paul was telling:

Acts 16:14-15 A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. (15) And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

Their hearts were touched by the words of Jesus even though they did not recognize Him. The time is uncertain but some people think the word "evening" means after noon and the meal would have been at about 3:00 PM. If this is so, it would mean that all of the appearances of Jesus recorded in the gospels were on the day of resurrection. Jesus went with them and then changed His role from guest to host as He took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and began giving it to them. This action was common for any meal but usually done by the host.

Luke 24:31-35

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. (32) They said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was

speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?" (33) And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, (34) saying, "The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon." (35) They began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.

Since these disciples were not present at the Lord's Supper, it would not have been reminiscent to them of that event. However their eyes were opened at this moment and the aorist tense means that it was an act of God to remove the veil from their eyes. This veil was over all of our eyes also:

2Cor 3:14-16 But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. (15) But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; (16) but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

They had heard the Word of God revealed by Jesus and now they were enjoying fellowship with Him. He then vanished from their site as it is revealed that He has been changed from an ordinary human into a body with different characteristics. They comment to each other how their hearts were touched by the words of Jesus as is common with anyone who had truly heard those words. They were only 7 miles away from Jerusalem so they had time to return there to meet with the remaining apostles. Before they were fleeing the danger of the city in despair but now they return there to share the good news with their fellow believers. The group of eleven was hearing how Jesus had appeared to Peter. Luke does not here report on that event but Paul does:

1Cor 15:3-5 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, (4) and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, (5) and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

They had dismissed the women's accounts but now they were accepting the appearance to Peter. Then the two travelers reveal their experience with the Lord.

Luke 24:36-43

*While they were telling these things, He Himself stood in their midst and *said to them, "Peace be to you." (37) But they were startled and frightened and thought that they were seeing a spirit. (38) And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? (39) "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." (40) And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. (41) While they still could not believe it because of their joy and amazement, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" (42) They gave Him a piece of a broiled fish; (43) and He took it and ate it before them.*

They still do not understand exactly what has happened. Now they are ready to believe that the spirit of Jesus is with them but not a resurrected body. His body is very different but it still is a body and not just a spirit. Jesus declares for peace to be to them and they are still troubled. Jesus then tries to get them focused on His bodily form by having them look at His hands and feet so they will see a real body. John records the same conversation at this point: *And when He had*

said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. (John 20:20) But John then brings Thomas into the picture:

John 20:25-28 *So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." (26) After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus *came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." (27) Then He *said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing." (28) Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"*

I have a hard time believing that the resurrected body of Jesus has holes in His hands and feet from the nails and a hole in His side from the sword. If that were true then would a person whose legs were eaten by a shark have a resurrected body without legs? Although Jesus told Thomas to touch those affected parts of His body, John does not report that Thomas did so. Perhaps just being told by Jesus to feel free to closely examine His body was enough for Thomas to believe. However it is also possible that the body of Jesus was not in a totally glorified form until at His ascension and, at this point, the body still had the wounds showing so that the disciples would believe. A final effort to get them to accept His bodily resurrection was then made by Jesus as He asked them for some fish so that He could show them that He could eat. A spirit cannot eat so showing them He could eat was a final form to prove His corporal existence.

Luke 24:44-45

Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." (45) Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

Jesus then opened their minds so that they could understand the Scriptures. The Psalms are often used by the Apostles as pointing to the entire function of Jesus:

- Acts 1:16 *"Brethren, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit foretold by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus.*
- Acts 1:20 *"For it is written in the book of Psalms, 'LET HIS HOMESTEAD BE MADE DESOLATE, AND LET NO ONE DWELL IN IT'; and, 'LET ANOTHER MAN TAKE HIS OFFICE.'*
- Acts 2:25 *"For David says of Him, 'I SAW THE LORD ALWAYS IN MY PRESENCE; FOR HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, SO THAT I WILL NOT BE SHAKEN.*
- Acts 2:30-35 *"And so, because he was a prophet and knew that GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH TO SEAT one OF HIS DESCENDANTS ON HIS THRONE, (31) he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY. (32) "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. (33) "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. (34) "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: "THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, "SIT AT*

MY RIGHT HAND, (35) UNTIL I MAKE YOUR ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR YOUR FEET."

- Acts 4:25-26 *who by the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, said, 'WHY DID THE GENTILES RAGE, AND THE PEOPLES DEVISE FUTILE THINGS? (26) 'THE KINGS OF THE EARTH TOOK THEIR STAND, AND THE RULERS WERE GATHERED TOGETHER AGAINST THE LORD AND AGAINST HIS CHRIST.'*
- Acts 13:33-34 *that God has fulfilled this promise to our children in that He raised up Jesus, as it is also written in the second Psalm, 'YOU ARE MY SON; TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU.'* (34) *"As for the fact that He raised Him up from the dead, no longer to return to decay, He has spoken in this way: 'I WILL GIVE YOU THE HOLY and SURE blessings OF DAVID.'*

Luke 24:46-49

and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, (47) and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. (48) "You are witnesses of these things. (49) "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

It is very significant that Luke here substitutes “Christ” for “Son of Man” previously used in context with suffering and resurrection: *saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed and be raised up on the third day."* (Luke 9:22) Thus Luke is showing the identification of Son of Man with the Messiah. Verse 47 is the order to His disciples that is continued in the book of Acts by Luke. He is very clear that this forgiveness is only in the name of Jesus Christ and that it is for all the nations. This message of forgiveness is to begin in Jerusalem because that is the place where Jesus was turned over for crucifixion and they did not recognize His appearance the first time. It had also been prophesied to start there:

- Isa 2:3 *And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; That He may teach us concerning His ways And that we may walk in His paths." For the law will go forth from Zion And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*
- Mic 4:2 *Many nations will come and say, "Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD And to the house of the God of Jacob, That He may teach us about His ways And that we may walk in His paths." For from Zion will go forth the law, Even the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.*

The command is that the disciples will move from being eyewitnesses to being witnesses to all the world of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Luke does not state the full meaning of the promise from His Father but we know it is the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit:

Acts 1:4-5 Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me; (5) for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Jesus told them to stay in the city until they receive that promise. At Pentecost they will indeed be transformed into mighty witnesses of their Lord.

Luke 24:50-53

And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. (51) While He was blessing them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven. (52) And they, after worshiping Him, returned to Jerusalem with great joy, (53) and were continually in the temple praising God.

By stating that Jesus blessed them, Luke is placing Jesus within the spiritual setting of priesthood since He has the authority to bless. Jesus is our great high priest: *Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.* (Heb 4:14) Since Jesus is the Son of God, they set the example for all of us by worshiping Him before returning to Jerusalem. Before they were filled with sorrow but now they are filled with great joy. Later they will be filled with great power so they can witness for their Lord Jesus Christ throughout the region. Luke continues this explanation in his second book:

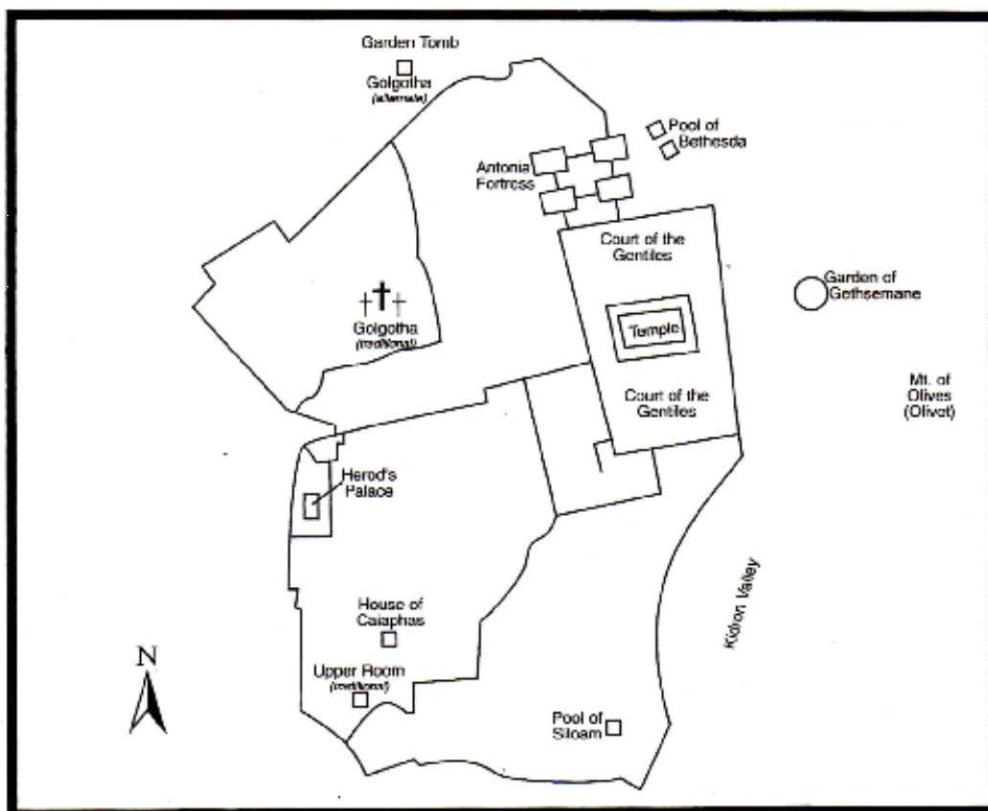
Acts 1:9-14 And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. (10) And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. (11) They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven." (12) Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. (13) When they had entered the city, they went up to the upper room where they were staying; that is, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas the son of James. (14) These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

The following are some appearances of Jesus after His resurrection:

1. Appearance to Mary Magdalene at the tomb on Resurrection Sunday (Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18).
2. Appearance to the women disciples at the tomb on Resurrection Sunday (Matthew 28:9-10; Luke 24:10-11).
3. Appearance to two disciples, Cleopas and a companion, traveling to the village of Emmaus on Resurrection Sunday (Mark 16:12; Luke 24:13-35).
4. Appearance to ten Apostles (Thomas is absent) in the Upper Room on Resurrection Sunday (Mark 16:14-18; Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-23; Luke 24:36-53).
5. Appearance to the Apostles including Thomas in the Upper Room a week after the resurrection (John 20:24-29).
6. Appearance to seven Apostles on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, about two weeks after the resurrection. According to John 21:14 this is the third time Jesus appeared to His disciples as a group (John 21:1-23).

7. Appearance to eleven Apostles at a mountain in Galilee, about two weeks after the resurrection (Matthew 28:16-20).
8. A private meeting with Peter (called Simon in Luke 24:34). Paul refers to this same meeting but calls Peter by his title “Rock” (Matthew 16:18) in Aramaic, which is “Cephas” (1 Corinthians 15:5).
9. Appearance to the Apostles and disciples prior to the Ascension on the Mt. of Olives, forty days after the Resurrection (Acts 1:3-9).
10. The appearance of Jesus to a crowd of 500 (1 Corinthians 15:6)
11. Jesus' private meeting with His kinsman James, who became the first Christian bishop of Jerusalem (1 Corinthians 15:7).
12. Jesus' encounter with Paul on the road to Damascus after His Ascension (Acts 9:3-6; 26:12-18; 1 Corinthians 15:8).

Last Days of Jesus in Jerusalem



1. Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem (*Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:32-41; John 12:12-15*)
2. Temple where Jesus taught (*Matthew 21:23-24:2; Mark 11:15, 27-44; Luke 19:45-47, 20:1, 21:37-38*)
3. Upper room for Passover supper (*Matthew 26:18; Mark 14:13-16; Luke 22:10-13*)
4. Mount of Olives (*Matthew 26:30; Mark 14:26; Luke 22:39*)
5. Gethsemane where Jesus prays, disciples sleep, Judas comes to betray Him (*Mat. 26:36; Mark 14:32; John 18:1*)
6. Before Annas (*John 18:12-14, 19-23*)
7. Before Caiaphas, the high priest and the Sanhedrin (*Matthew 26:57-68, 27:1; Mark 14:53; Luke 22:54; John 18:24*)
8. Before Pilate, the governor (*Matthew 27:2, 11-14; Mark 15:1; Luke 23:1; John 18:28*)
9. Before Herod (*Luke 23:6-12*)
10. Before Pilate again (*Matthew 27:15-26; Luke 23:13*)
11. Praetorium (The Common Hall) (*Matthew 27:27; Mark 15:16*)
12. Golgotha, The Place of the Skull, where He was crucified (*Matthew 27:33; Mark 15:22; Luke 23:33; John 19:17*)
13. Joseph of Arimathea's tomb where He is buried (*Matthew 27:60; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:53; John 19:38*)
14. At the tomb after He arose (*Mark 16:19; John 20:14*)
15. Galilee, to the mountain, Jesus comes to His disciples (*Matthew 28:16-18*)
16. Walks in the country (*Mark 16:12*)
17. On the road to Emmaus (*Luke 24:13*)
18. Bethany (*Luke 24:50*)
19. In Jerusalem (*Luke 24:33-43; John 20:19, 26*)
20. Mt. of Olives where He ascends into heaven (*Acts 1:9-12*)