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Outline of the Resurrection Appearances of Jesus Christ

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A BASIC OUTLINE OF THE RESURRECTION APPEARANCES OF JESUS CHRIST

- **OUTLINE**

Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-14; Luke 24:1-49; John 20:1-29

A. Events prior to His resurrection appearances:

1. The tomb is visited by some women for the purpose of completing the anointing of Jesus' body (Mt. 28:1; Mk. 16:1-3; Lk. 24:1).
2. They wondered who would roll away the heavy stone, but discovered this had already been done (Mk. 16:2-4; Lk. 24:2).
3. Upon entering they found the tomb empty (Lk. 24:3).
4. Suddenly they felt a great earthquake and saw an angel descending from heaven (Mt. 28:2-4; Mk. 16:5; Lk. 24:4).
5. The angel spoke:
"Fear not . . . He is not here, for he is risen" (Mt. 28:5, 6; Mk. 16:6, 7; Lk. 24:5-7).
"Go tell his disciples and remind them he planned to meet them later in Galilee" (Mt. 28:7).
6. The women ran and reported this to the disciples (Mt. 28:8; Mk. 16:8; Lk. 24:9, 10).

B. The ten resurrection appearances:

Five of these took place during the first Easter Sunday and the final five would transpire in the following thirty-nine days, climaxing with Jesus' ascension.

C. The first five

Early Sunday Morning:

1. The appearance before Mary Magdalene (Jn. 20:11-17; Mk. 16:9)

- a. Mary enters the empty tomb and believes Jesus' body has been stolen (Jn. 20:1, 2).
- b. She reports this to Peter and John who quickly run to the tomb and check this out (Jn. 20:3-10; Lk. 24:12).
- c. Mary stood outside the sepulcher when she suddenly saw two angels inside (Jn. 20:11, 12):
 - (1) The angels—*"Why the tears?"* (Jn. 20:13a)
 - (2) Mary—*"Because they have stolen Jesus' body!"* (Jn. 20:13b)
- d. Suddenly Jesus appears but is not recognized by Mary who assumed He was the gardener (Jn. 20:14-15).

- e. He simply called her by name which was enough for her to know it was the Savior (Jn. 20:16, 17).
- f. Mary shared this glorious news with the disciples but they did not believe her (Mk. 16:10, 11; Jn. 20:18).

2. The appearance before the other women (Mt. 28:9, 10)

- a. Upon hearing the announcement by the angel at the sepulcher's report, "Fear not . . . for he is risen . . .", they excitedly ran from the tomb to spread the glorious news, and were stopped in their tracks by the resurrected Christ! (Mt. 28:5-10)
- b. At this time the soldiers assigned to guard the tomb made their amazing report to their officials (Mt. 28:11).
- c. The soldiers were then bribed to say His disciples had taken the body while they slept (Mt. 28:12-15).

Sometime Sunday Afternoon:

3. The appearance before Simon Peter (Lk. 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:5)

4. The appearance before two followers en route to Emmaus (Mk. 16:12; Lk. 24:13-32)

- a. The unrecognized Jesus appears to Cleopas and his companion, accompanying them to Emmaus, during which time He reminds them of all the O.T. prophecies in regard to the Messiah! (Lk. 24:13-28).
- b. During an evening meal in their home He is suddenly recognized but then vanishes from their sight (Lk. 24:29-32).
- c. Both of them then quickly return to Jerusalem and report all this to the disciples (Lk. 24:33-35; Mk. 16:13).

Sunday Night:

5. The appearance before the ten disciples in Jerusalem (Lk. 24:36-43; Jn. 20:19-23)

- a. He passes through solid doors and stood before them (Jn. 20:19).
- b. He assures them He was not a ghost (Lk. 24:36-40; Jn. 20:20).
- c. He eats a broiled fish and a honeycomb (Lk. 24:41-43).

D. The remaining five

6. The appearance before the eleven (Mk. 16:14; Jn. 20:24-29)

- a. This event transpired on the second Sunday following Jesus' resurrection.
- b. Thomas, who was absent during the previous Sunday is now present, but not able to believe the glorious news concerning Jesus' resurrection (Jn. 20:24, 25).
- c. Jesus suddenly appears, removing all doubt from Thomas (Jn. 20:29).

- d. Jesus then addressed Thomas, the other ten, and all believers throughout church history — *“Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed; blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.”* (Jn. 20:24)
- 7. The appearance before seven disciples while they were fishing in Galilee (Jn. 21:1-25)**
 - a. They had been fishing all night but had caught nothing (Jn. 21:3).
 - b. At Jesus’ command they cast the net on the right side of the boat and immediately drew in 153 fish! (Jn. 21:4-6, 11)
 - c. Soon all seven knew it was Jesus who had issued the command (Jn. 21:7-9).
 - d. The Savior then prepared breakfast for all involved (Jn. 21:9, 12-14).
 - e. He asks and receives a three-fold affirmation that Simon Peter loved Him (Jn. 21:15-17).
 - f. He finally predicts that Peter would later die a martyr’s death (Jn. 21:18, 19; 2 Peter 1:13, 14).
 - g. Peter asks what would be the fate for John, but was told this was not his concern (Jn. 21:20-22).
 - 8. The appearance before the 500 and eleven (Mt. 28:16-20; Mk. 16:15-18; 1 Cor. 15:6)**

It was before this large group of believers that Jesus spelled out the details of the Great Commission.
 - 9. The appearance before His half-brother, James (1 Cor. 15:7)**
 - 10. The final appearance before His disciples in Jerusalem (Lk. 24:44-49; Acts 1:3-8)**
 - a. He reminds them what He had already done (Lk. 24:44; Acts 1:7).
 - b. He reminds them what they were now to do (Lk. 24:45-49; Acts 1:8).