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## The Reaction of Jesus' Friends and Foes in Regard to His Resurrection

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## THE REACTION OF JESUS' FRIENDS AND FOES IN REGARD TO HIS RESURRECTION

- **The response of His foes:**

- A. The Jewish leaders demanded that Pilate seal Jesus' tomb to prevent the resurrection from happening.

*"Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch" (Matt. 27:62-66).*

- B. The Roman soldiers who witnessed the resurrection were bribed to say it had never occurred (Matt. 28:12-15).

- **The response of His friends:**

Sadly, none of Jesus' disciples remembered (or had sufficient faith to believe) His repeated promise to rise again.

- A. The women did not remember.

*"And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?" (Mark 16:1-3).*

- B. Mary Magdalene did not remember.

*"And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my LORD, and I know not where they have laid him. And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away" (John 20:13-15).*

- C. Peter and John did not remember.

*"For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead" (John 20:9).*

*“Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass” (Luke 24:12).*

D. The apostles did not remember.

*“And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles. And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not” (Luke 24:9-11).*

E. The two disciples on the Emmaus Road did not remember.

*“Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?” (Luke 24:25, 26).*

F. Thomas did not remember.

*“But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the LORD. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe” (John 20:24, 25).*