

## AN EMPTY TOMB

Luke 24: 1-12 Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Luke 24:1-5

Imagine the women's surprise when they come to the tomb with their spices to anoint the body of Jesus and they discover an empty tomb. Were they confused? Did they demand clarity? Experience tells us that death wins. The Easter message says that Jesus lives. The claim that the tomb could not hold Jesus, and the idea that the one who died by crucifixion has now risen is so outrageous that it might make you wonder whether it might—just might—be true. The message was so outrageous that Peter had to go and take a look for himself and finding the empty tomb with nothing but the strips of linen left as evidence that Jesus was once there and he had to believe it was true. The Lenten season is a holy journey with God. The resurrection of Jesus gives us a blessed gift that makes our lives more compelling. He died for us. It is only by putting our faith and hope in Christ that we are saved.

**PRAYER:** Gracious God we are thankful for the chance to be on a Holy journey with you. We are thankful for your Son, Jesus, who died on that cross for us. May we always trust in Your patient love as we strive every day to do better in our daily walk with you. In Jesus Name, Amen.

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