

ALL THINGS NEW

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!”
Revelation 21:5 (NIV)

If you could see one hour of the past in HI-DEF quality and from any angle, what would you choose to see?

- I’d start one minute before the Big Bang
- I would love to see Egypt in its heyday
- The impact of the dinosaur-famed asteroid.
- Dinosaurs. If you disagree, you’re not a man.
- The assassination of Julius Caesar would be pretty epic.

https://www.reddit.com/r/AskReddit/comments/9jnba/if_you_could_see_one_hour_of_the_past_dvd_quality/

- I would want to see a compilation of DVD shorts of the forty days of Jesus’ resurrection.

It doesn’t escape me how ridiculous our hope is to the modern world. We live in a modern medical marvel era that Oxford Mathematician John Lennox asserts has a vision for us to live longer and happier lives by leveraging organ transplants and pharmaceuticals.

While Spring weather, Easter outfits, family time, and Easter candy are fun, today we celebrate the third of “three key truths all Christians must know”— Truth One) that Jesus died, Truth Two) that he was buried, and Truth Three) after three days he rose again. And, even if you don’t believe in Easter, there’s a piece of you that wants it to be true. Because if it’s true, there’s hope that all things will become new!

Melissa lost her dad, Max Goins, last summer. Melissa is not a crier. She had a moment on his birthday last month when she cried. She made me cry. We miss him—his voice, his example as a pastor, teacher, and missionary (tremendous work ethic), and his unconditional love for us.

Melissa and I would Facetime him and her mom on Sunday evenings every couple of weeks for usually a half-hour. I considered him a mentor. He was still working part-time as a congregational care pastor days before he died. He was 82. You’ve lost people, family, and some, even a child, that you love. The idea of seeing them may feel far off, maybe even wishful thinking.

Last week, I had an early morning dream that I was with Mr. Goins. He wanted to talk to Melissa and me. He said, “Get Melissa, we need to talk.” I remember the white shirt that he was wearing and his familiar physique, movements, and especially his presence— how I felt around him. Then I woke up. But I woke up with the sensation that I had been with him. You see, one day, all things will be new, and you will in the twinkling of an eye, be in the forever presence of your brothers and sisters and loved ones in Christ. A Dream is a resurrection trailer preview.

The first fact in the history of Christendom is a number of people
who say they have seen the Resurrection. C.S. LEWIS

For over forty days, hundreds of people saw Jesus with marks of the crucifixion-- walking (80 miles), conversing, explaining, cooking, and eating. On one occasion, he was seen by over 500 people (1 Cor. 15:6). They saw resurrection.

See the resurrection.

WHAT HAPPENED?

Jesus Has Risen

24:1–10pp—Mt 28:1–8; Mk 16:1–8; Jn 20:1–8

24 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, **the women** took the spices they had prepared and **went** to the tomb. ² 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 wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ **In their fright** the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here; **he has risen!** Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ ‘**The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.**’ ” ⁸ Then they remembered his words.

“**the women...went**” -- It’s not safe for ladies to be out in the city at dark. But grief appears to have overcome fear. The women want to ensure that Jesus’ body is prepared (customary for women in Jewish culture.). It’s not only unsafe, but the stone that had been set was an impossible move. They are “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?” (Mark 16:3). Carson, D. A. 1991. [*The Gospel according to John*](#). The Pillar New Testament Commentary. Leicester, England; Grand Rapids, MI: Inter-Varsity Press; W.B. Eerdmans.

“**the stone rolled away**”—

“The stone was actually a large disc, like a wheel, cut from [a] rock.

- It ran in a groove cut into the ground.
- It could be pushed back and forth to open or close the entrance to the tomb.
- But it would require several strong men and a fulcrum to accomplish the task.
- Matthew tells us that the angels opened the tomb, and at their appearance, the soldiers guarding the tomb lay stiff with fear— “they shook and became like dead men” (Matt. 28: 4).¹

¹ Stephen Armstrong, “The Gospel of John.”

It would take a massive effort to move. They went anyway, believing that God might just do something. You know what we call this-- faith. You get prompting to do something that, without God intervening, is impossible. They arrive at the tomb and discover what had happened-- Matthew records that an angel caused an earthquake that rolled the stone away (28:2). So God honored the faith of these women. In Luke's Gospel, these women are juxtaposed against the disciples who are stuck. They're not moving.

"the Lord Jesus," became a popular term in the early church. The ladies are wondering what's going on.

"In their fright," bespeaks of most encounters with angels. Angels, having existed since creation, in most cases, terrify humans. These angels reference Jesus' prophetic promise.

"The body of the Lord Jesus"— Where is his body? During his burial, the concern was that someone might steal his body and proclaim him resurrected. His body should have been placed in this elaborate, exorbitant tomb donated by Joseph of Arimathea.

Son of Man-- "One Important Key in the Gospels"

"Son of Man is Jesus' favorite self-designation. This powerful combination of Daniel 7 [and] a term that he could fill with His own meaning. He never called Himself, Messiah. Son of Man" means "like a human." The clear reference point is Daniel 7:13-14."²

Jesus says the "Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve" (Suffering Servant). The people wanted a kingdom, but they wanted it their way.

"Daniel 7-- "It's night. It's the sea (chaos). The Beast represents political power [like] the British lion and American Bald Eagle. The voice says to the Beast, "Get up and eat your fill of flesh!" (7:5). The beasts are chewing up human beings, and body parts are flying. Then God takes away glory, honor, and power from the beasts and He gives it to one like a Son of Man (7:27) that "all peoples and all nations are going to serve the Son of Man." Daniel 7 is a reflection on the biggest canvas of human history from the Garden to God's rescue plan."³

"And on the third day be raised again." -- So where is he? He's on an eighty-mile walk to Galilee.⁴ He is alive in his earthly, sinless body.

And **"they remembered."**

⁹ When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to **the Eleven** and to all the others. ¹⁰ It was **Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James,** and the others with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But they **did not believe the women**, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. ¹² Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, **wondering** to himself what had happened. Luke 24:1-12 (NIV)

² Nystrom, Ph.D., "Interpreting the New Testament 1: The Gospels."

³ Nystrom, Ph.D.

⁴ Stephen Armstrong, "The Gospel of Luke."

“Eleven and to all the others” (Luke 8:2-3). Others in Luke’s Gospel are the team of women who may very well have outnumbered the disciples. How many women does it take to care for the men?

“It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the Mother of James”--

- **“Chain of custody”** -- These women were present when Jesus gave up His spirit on the cross, was buried in a sealed tomb, and were the first to arrive at the tomb on Sunday morning— “They could testify that Jesus did, in fact, die, spend three days in the tomb and resurrect.”⁵
- Mary the mother of James is Jesus’ mother. It’s 62 A.D. when Luke writes and the early church is steering clear of venerating Mary disproportionately.

“Did not believe” -- In Luke’s Gospel, these women are juxtaposed against the disciples who are stuck unbelieving. They’re not moving. When the early church launches, these disciples will have the example of these women’s faith. Women see things we men don’t. Men, your wife sees in you, sons, your mom sees in you with eyes of faith, things you do not. Listen to them because they were the first to act by faith and see the resurrection.

WHAT DOES THIS ALL MEAN?

See the resurrection by...

1. Acting by faith (without a detailed plan)

24 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, **the women** took the spices they had prepared and **went** to the tomb. ² They found the **stone rolled away** from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the **Lord Jesus**.

“God used some women because he knew that the news would go faster because we’re more *chismosa* (chatty) and we’re more spontaneous and do things faster. So that’s why.” ANONYMOUS CONTRIBUTOR

HOW? Do the next thing God is asking you to do.

Sometimes, that can take a lot of self-denial—it might be a conversation, something you don’t want to do, a sacrifice you don’t want to make, or a next step that isn’t that sexy. But, by faith and God’s grace, you’re willing to act and not just talk about it.

Day three of their trauma of having seen their friend triumph and then be betrayed, scourged, crucified, and buried. Trauma like this tends to turn us callus. Many of them left everything to follow

⁵ Stephen Armstrong, “The Gospel of Matthew.”

Jesus. And, though he performed many miracles, he was unable to fend off his execution. And yet when these women arrive at the tomb, they didn't expect no body. Nobody expected no body. Resurrection didn't have precedence. So as they see the resurrection, it, he, teaches them on this weekend of trauma, that God is not distant through our suffering, but is actually very near. The early church would really need to see this as persecution on Christianity would characterize the first two hundred years.

2. Accepting God's nearness during your suffering.

Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷'**The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.**' " ⁸ Then they remembered his words.

After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. **The Twelve** were with him, ² and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: **Mary (called Magdalene)** from whom seven demons had come out; ³ **Joanna** the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; **Susanna**; and **many others**. These women were helping to support them out of their own means. Luke 8:1-3 (NIV)

David Nystrom Story

HOW? Ask the Lord Jesus for help and find your people. Find tremendous healing through the Bible.

And also, incredible hope.

3. Anticipating ALL THINGS NEW.

A NEW LOVE

¹⁴ For **Christ's love compels us**, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died.

¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves **but for him** who died for them and was raised again. 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, Romans 8:9-10 (NIV)

A NEW BODY

⁵² in a flash [**atomos**], in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴ When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." 1 Corinthians 15:52-54 (NIV)

A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH

Then I saw "**a new heaven and a new earth**," for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne

saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.”⁴ “He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “**I am making everything new!**” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” *Revelation 21:1–5 (NIV)*

HOW? Declare and believe in the LORD JESUS

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “**Jesus is Lord,**” and believe in your heart that God **raised him from the dead**, you will be saved. *Romans 10:9 (NIV)*

What’s impairing your vision to see the resurrection?

On Not Loving the World

¹⁵ Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. ¹⁶ For everything in the world—the **lust of the flesh**, the **lust of the eyes**, and the **pride of life**—comes not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷ The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever. *1 John 2:15–17 (NIV)*

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “**Peace be with you.**” *Luke 24:36 (NIV)*

See the resurrection by...

1. Acting by faith (without a detailed plan)

HOW? Do the next thing God is asking you to do.

2. Accepting God’s nearness during your suffering.

HOW? Ask the Lord Jesus for help and find your people.

3. Anticipating ALL THINGS NEW.

HOW? Declare and believe in the LORD, JESUS

Melissa and I lost a grandson named Oliver two years ago. You've lost people and children that you love. The idea of resurrecting with them is unreal...until, in a dream, you communicate with them and experience their presence. One day, in an *atomas*, in the twinkling of an eye, I'm going to hear Oliver say, "Grandad! it's me, Oliver!" One day, in an *atomas*, in the twinkling of an eye, you're going to hear your name— from your loved ones and your brothers and sister. You're going to see the resurrection.




A NEW LOVE!
A NEW BODY!
A NEW HEAVEN AND A NEW EARTH!

HOW? Declare and believe in the LORD JESUS

⁹ If you declare with your mouth, “**Jesus is Lord,**” and believe in your heart that God **raised him from the dead**, you will be saved. *Romans 10:9 (NIV)*

AN EXCERPT FROM THE PROBLEM OF GOD

THE PROBLEM OF GOD

A central image featuring a mound of dark, granular soil or sand. The word "GOD" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of the mound. The letters are partially filled with the soil, creating a visual metaphor for the concept of "digging for God" or the "problem of God" mentioned in the title.

ANSWERING A SKEPTIC'S CHALLENGES
TO CHRISTIANITY

<https://www.baysideonline.com/the-problem-of-god-excerpt/>

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