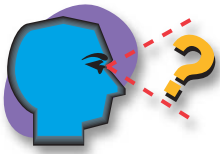


# John



## Responses to the Questions

NOTE: BE SURE TO ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS YOURSELF BEFORE READING THE ANSWERS IN ORDER TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS STUDY.

### Read John 20:1-18

1. According to Luke, Mary Magdalene had been exorcised of seven evil spirits.
2. Matthew and Luke's gospels state that Mary and other women came to the tomb very early in the morning, bringing spices which they had prepared, to anoint the body of Jesus. In Israel, dead bodies were prepared for burial by washing (cf. Acts 9:37), wrapped in cloth or a shroud and a separate square of linen would be wrapped around the head. Because Jesus died on the Day of Preparation, his friends had to hurry to prepare his body for burial before sundown. Jewish Law would have prevented them from coming to the tomb the next day, being the Sabbath, and on this occasion, Passover. Mary, therefore, would have had to wait until Sunday to come to finish anointing his body.
3. Mary Magdalene was accompanied by Mary, the mother of James, Salome and Joanna.
4. Joseph of Arimathea rolled the stone against the door of the tomb (cf. Mark 15:46). Mary had not planned how she would remove the stone. St. Mark recorded in his gospel that Mary Magdalene and the women, on their way to the tomb, were saying to one another, "who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?"(cf Mark 16:3)
5. The tomb was sealed and guards were stationed by the order of Pontius Pilate. This was done because the Pharisees and the chief priests came to him and expressed their concern over Jesus' prediction that he would rise again in three days. They told Pilate that they feared that Jesus' disciples might steal his body and claim that he had risen from the dead (cf. Mt. 27:62-66).
6. The apostles did not believe the women at first but then Peter and John ran to see for themselves (cf. Luke 24:1-12).
7. The fact that John waited for Peter and allowed Peter to enter first may be an indication that Peter was already regarded by the Apostles to be their leader.
8. When John saw the empty tomb and the burial cloths he believed that Jesus had risen from the dead. John might have surmised because of the placement of the burial cloths that truly Jesus had risen from the dead. It was important that John, an Apostle of Jesus saw firsthand the condition of the empty tomb so he could speak as an eye witness.
9. No. Verse 9 states that they did not yet know the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.



## Responses to the Questions (cont.)

10. Jesus is stressing the fact that God is not only his Father, but *their* Father and *their* God. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus has made all believers members of his family.
11. Mary Magdalene and the women with her became the first messengers of Christ's Resurrection for the apostles.