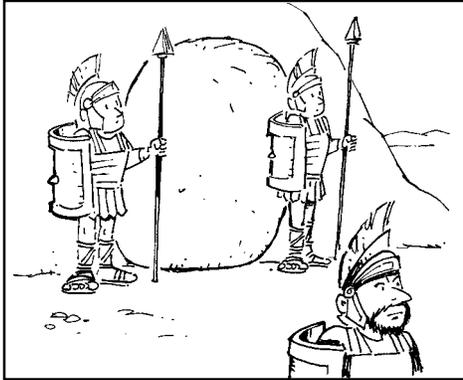


Lesson 1A

The Appearances of the Risen Christ (Matthew 28:1-10)



BEFORE



AFTER

Please turn to chapter 28 of Matthew's Gospel. It can be divided into three parts:

1. The Appearances of the Risen Christ (Matthew 28:1-10)
2. The Denial of the Risen Christ (Matthew 28:11-15)
3. The Great Commission of the Risen Christ (Matthew 28:16-20)

In this lesson we will look at the first part, the narrative of Jesus' resurrection in Matthew 28:1-10. We will complete our study from the other Gospels by using the technique of comparing.

1. Although it is impossible to be certain of the exact chronological order of the appearances of the risen Jesus, in today's study we will consider their most likely order. It is important to remember that Jesus' risen life starts in Matthew 28, follows on in the book of the Acts, and continues right down to the present time (Matthew 28:20).
 - a) According to Matthew 28:1-7, on which day of the week did Mary Magdalene go to the tomb?
 a. The last day, Saturday
 b. The first day, Sunday
 c. The second day, Monday
 d. The sixth day, Friday
 - b) Did Mary Magdalene go alone or with others? _____

Answers

1. a) b.
b) She went with others

At the back of this Study Book is a Cartoon Narrative of the accounts of the Risen Life of Jesus in the New Testament. We will be using this throughout this Book so turn to page 274 now and, in preparation for this lesson, go carefully through the pictures of the events which led up to the first appearance of the risen Christ.

2. Mark and Luke agree with Matthew that early on Sunday morning a group of women went to the grave together (see Luke 24:1 and Mark 16:2). John does not mention the other women but agrees that Mary Magdalene **did not go alone** (see John 20:1-2). He tells how, on returning to the disciples, Mary said to them: “*We don’t know where they have put him*” (John 20:2).
 - a) According to John, what word did Mary Magdalene use that proves she did not go alone to the tomb? _____
 - b) Which drawing on page 274 shows Mary Magdalene and the other women going to the grave? Drawing _____.

3. All the Gospels say that the women arrived together at Jesus’ tomb, with the intention of anointing his body. But when they saw that the tomb had been opened, Mary Magdalene left the others and ran back alone to Jerusalem to find Peter and John and to report that Jesus’ body had disappeared from the tomb.
 - a) Which two of the drawings on page 274 show this? Drawings ____ and ____.
 - b) Which of the four Gospels tells us that Mary went to get Peter and John? _____
 - c) According to Matthew 28:1-7, what did the other women see while Mary was away? _____
 - d) Read Luke 24:4. Matthew makes a contraction in his account of the events. According to Luke, there were _____ angels who appeared to the women.
 - e) According to Matthew 28:6, the women were told that Jesus had _____.
 - f) Which drawing on page 274 shows this? Drawing _____.

4.
 - a) The angels sent the other women back to Jerusalem also. Which drawing shows them on their way? Drawing _____.
 - b) To whom did they tell their good news? (Matthew 28:8) _____

Answers

- | | | | | | |
|----|---------------|----|---|----|--------------------------|
| 2. | a) We
b) 1 | 3. | a) 2, 3
b) John
c) An angel
d) two
e) risen
f) 4 | 4. | a) 5
b) The disciples |
|----|---------------|----|---|----|--------------------------|

5. a) A few minutes later Mary Magdalene returned to the tomb with Peter and John. They probably went by another route. Which drawing shows this? Drawing _____.
- b) The two apostles inspected the empty tomb, then they returned to the city. This is shown in drawings _____ and _____.
- c) Who were these two men? _____ and _____.
- d) The woman who was with them stayed by the empty grave. When she looked in, she saw two angels. Which drawing shows this? Drawing _____.
- e) Who was this woman who stayed behind? _____



In spite of all these events, so far no one had seen the risen Christ. Now we are going to begin our study of the ten appearances of Jesus to his disciples and try to place them in the most likely order of occurrence.

Appearance 1

6. According to Mark 16:9, to whom did the Lord Jesus appear first? _____
7. John gives us the details of this first appearance in chapter 20.
- a) Which woman is mentioned in John 20:11? _____
- b) She did not recognise Jesus at first. Instead, she thought he was the _____ (John 20:15).
- c) Read John 20:16. When did she realise that he was the Lord?
- a. When she saw him.
- b. When she heard the Lord call her name.
- c. When she touched the Lord.

Appearance 2

8. Read Matthew 28:8-10.
- a) Who appeared to the women while they were running back to Jerusalem? _____
- b) So we see that the first two appearances took place:
- a. at dawn.
- b. at night.
- c. in the afternoon.
- c) On which day of the week did they take place? _____

Answers

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| 5. a) 6 | 6. Mary Magdalene | 8. a) Jesus |
| b) 7 and 8 | 7. a) Mary | b) a. |
| c) Peter and John | b) gardener | c) Sunday |
| d) 9 | c) b. | |
| e) Mary Magdalene | | |

Appearance 3

9. We have already seen that Peter and John visited the empty tomb without seeing the risen Lord. However, the Lord appeared to one of these disciples. Did Jesus appear next to Peter or to John, according to the following verses?
- a) 1 Corinthians 15:5? _____
- b) Luke 24:34? _____
10. We know that John and Peter returned to the city after inspecting the empty tomb, so it must have been somewhere near the city of _____ where Jesus appeared to Peter.

Appearance 4

11. a) How many people were travelling to a village near Jerusalem on the day of the resurrection, according to Luke 24:13? _____
- b) What was the name of one of those travellers (Luke 24:18)? _____
- c) To what village were these two going (verse 13)? _____
- d) How many miles was this from Jerusalem? _____
12. Who joined the travellers on the road (Luke 24:15)? _____
13. The travellers talked with the Lord during their seven mile walk without recognising him.
- a) Read Luke 24:30-31. When did Jesus make himself known to them, in the house? _____
- b) What happened to Jesus then? _____
- c) According to verse 29, what time of the day did this take place? _____
- d) In what village did this happen? _____
14. So far we have studied four of the ten appearances. We can group these into pairs to help us remember them.
- a) The first pair of appearances were to women. Jesus first appeared to _____ and then to the other w_____. .
- b) The second pair of appearances were to men. Jesus first appeared to P_____ and then to C_____ and his companion.

Answers

- | | | |
|------------------|------------|--------------------------------|
| 9. a) Peter | 11. a) Two | 13. a) When he gave them bread |
| b) Simon (Peter) | b) Cleopas | b) He disappeared |
| 10. Jerusalem | c) Emmaus | c) In the evening |
| | d) Seven | d) Emmaus |
| | 12. Jesus | 14. a) Mary Magdalene/ women |
| | | b) Peter/ Cleopas |

15. a) Although the appearance of Jesus in Emmaus occurred late in the day, where did these disciples go that same night (Luke 24:33)? _____
- b) How many miles did they have to walk? _____
16. Since Cleopas and his companion left after dark and had to walk seven miles back to Jerusalem, they must have arrived quite late.
- a) Who did they seek out in Jerusalem to tell about seeing the risen Jesus?

- b) According to verse 34, the apostles told Cleopas and his companion that Jesus had also appeared to _____.
17. Now let us review the four resurrection appearances we have studied so far. They all took place on Sunday, the day of the resurrection, in or near Jerusalem:

	Time	People and Place
1.	Early morning	To _____ by the tomb.
2.		To the w_____ on the road to Jerusalem.
3.	Later	To P_____, near Jerusalem.
4.	The evening	To C_____ and his companion on the road to Emmaus.

Appearance 5

18. Read Luke 24:36. What happened while Cleopas and his companion were talking to the others in the Upper Room? _____
19. Read John 20:24-25.
- a) Which apostle was not present when Jesus appeared in the Upper Room? _____
- b) What was his attitude when the others told him that they had seen the risen Christ? _____
- c) What proof did he say he would require in order to believe?

Answers

- | | | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 15. a) Back to Jerusalem | 17. 1. Mary Magdalene | 19. a) Thomas |
| b) Seven | 2. women | b) He doubted |
| 16. a) The Eleven (apostles) and those with them | 3. Peter | c) To see and touch Jesus' wounds |
| b) Simon (Peter) | 4. Cleopas | |
| | 18. Jesus stood among them | |

20. Cleopas and his friend left Emmaus after sundown and walked the seven miles back to Jerusalem. About what time did Jesus' fifth appearance to the apostles in the Upper Room take place?
- a. At dawn on the day of the resurrection.
 - b. Late at night on the day of the resurrection.
 - c. Late afternoon on the day after the resurrection.

21. Now let's name the first five people (or groups of people) to whom Jesus appeared, and the place where each occurred.

	Time	People and Place
1.	Early morning	_____
2.		_____
3.	Later:	_____
4.	The evening	_____
5.	Late at night	_____

22. Notice that all of the first five appearances were on the same day of the week.
- a) What day was this? _____
 - b) All the appearances were in or also near the city of _____ in the province of _____.

Appearance 6

23. Read John 20:26.
- a) How long after the first five appearances was it before Jesus again appeared to his disciples in the upper room? _____
 - b) This time, who was there who had been absent the week before? _____

24. Now read John 20:27-28.
- a) What proof did Christ give to Thomas that he had indeed risen from the dead and that he had the same body? _____
 - b) What did Thomas say? _____

Answers

- | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| 20. b. | 21. 4. To Cleopas and his companion on the road to Emmaus | 23. a) One week later |
| 21. 1. To Mary Magdalene by the tomb | 5. To the apostles in the upper room | b) Thomas |
| 2. To the women on the road to Jerusalem | 22. a) Sunday | 24. a) The wounds on his body |
| 3. To Peter near Jerusalem | b) Jerusalem/ Judea | b) "My Lord and my God" |

25. Notice that we now have a third pair of appearances. Appearances 5 and 6 were both to the apostles.
- a) Both took place in the _____ in the city of _____.
 - b) There was a length of time of _____ days between the appearances.
 - c) So we can distinguish them in this way:
 Appearance 5 took place when _____ was not present.
 Appearance 6 took place with _____ present.
26. a) The first five appearances took place on the same day as the resurrection, which was a _____.
- b) The sixth appearance also took place on a S_____, but exactly one _____ later.
27. Let us review these appearances so far.
- a) Were the first pair to men or women? _____
 - b) Were the second pair to men or women? _____
 - c) The third pair were to the _____.

28. Complete the following chart for the six appearances of the risen Christ:

	Time	People and Place
1.	Early morning	_____
2.		_____
3.	Later	_____
4.	The evening	_____
5.	Late at night	_____
6.	Week later	_____

Answers

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| 25. a) Upper Room/ Jerusalem | 28. 1. To Mary Magdalene by the tomb | 28. 5. To the apostles, without Thomas, in the upper room |
| b) seven | 2. To the women on the road to Jerusalem | 6. To the apostles, with Thomas, in the upper room |
| c) Thomas/ Thomas | 3. To Peter near Jerusalem | |
| 26. a) Sunday | 4. To Cleopas and his companion on the road to Emmaus | |
| b) Sunday/week | | |
| 27. a) Women | | |
| b) Men | | |
| c) apostles | | |

29. The first six appearances were in or near the city of Jerusalem, in the southern part of Palestine. The next two appearances were in the north.

In what province were these (Matthew 28:7)? _____

Appearance 7

30. Read John 21:1-6.

- a) How many of Jesus' disciples were together when Jesus appeared to them the seventh time? _____
- b) What were they doing and where? _____
- c) What miracle did Jesus use to make himself known to them? _____
- d) What time of day was this? _____

31. The number of this appearance is easy to remember because it was the same number as the number of disciples who went fishing. There were _____ people fishing.

32. John, the author of the fourth Gospel, often refers to himself as the "*other disciple*" or sometimes "*the disciple whom Jesus loved*". Both John and Peter had gone fishing.

- a) Which of these two was the first to recognise Jesus (John 21:7)? _____
- b) What did Peter do? _____

Appearance 8

33. Now return to the story of the resurrection in Matthew 28:16-20.

- a) The eighth appearance is the one when Jesus gave his disciples the "Great Commission" on a mountain.
According to Matthew 28, in which province did this take place? _____
- b) This seems to be the same appearance as is mentioned in 1 Cor.15:6.
If so, how many people were on the mountain in Galilee? More than _____.

Answers

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-----|---|-----|------------|
| 29. | Galilee | 31. | seven | 33. | a) Galilee |
| 30. | a) 7 | 32. | a) John | | b) 500 |
| | b) Fishing/Sea of Galilee | | b) He jumped into the water and went ashore | | |
| | c) He gave them a good catch of fish | | | | |
| | d) Dawn | | | | |

34. a) The fourth pair of appearances, 7 and 8, took place in the province of G_____.
- b) Appearance 7 took place when seven disciples were fishing in the Sea of _____.
- c) Appearance 8 was on a _____ when Jesus gave the Great Commission to more than _____ people.

Appearance 9

35. 1 Corinthians 15:7 gives the only appearance for which we have no idea as to the place where it occurred. It can be easily forgotten, and so you must make a special effort to remember it. According to this verse, to whom did Jesus appear?
- _____

Appearance 10

36. Jesus appeared once more to his disciples.
- a) What event took place at this time (Acts 1:9)? The _____.
- b) According to Luke 24:50, in the vicinity of what village did this take place? _____
- c) From this information we know that it took place on what mount? _____
- d) In which province was this? _____
- e) And near to which city? _____
37. The eighth appearance, when Jesus appeared to more than 500 people, is often confused with his final appearance when he ascended into heaven. But they are not the same. We can easily see this since they took place in two different places.
- a) Where did Jesus appear to the 500 and give the Great Commission?
On a _____ in the province of _____.
- b) Where did Jesus' final appearance and ascension into heaven take place?
On the _____ in the village of _____ near the city of _____ in the province of _____.

Answers

- | | | |
|--|--------------------|---|
| 34. a) Galilee | 36. a) ascension | 37. a) mountain/ Galilee |
| b) Galilee | b) Bethany | b) Mount of Olives/ Bethany/ Jerusalem/ Judea |
| c) mountain/500 | c) Mount of Olives | |
| 35. To James and then all the apostles | d) Judea | |
| | e) Jerusalem | |

38. Now let us review the last four appearances:

	Time	People and Place
7.	Dawn	To _____ disciples fishing on the Sea of _____.
8.	?	To more than _____ disciples on a _____ in _____.
9.	?	To _____ and the other _____. Place unknown.
10.	?	To the _____ at his a _____ from the Mount of _____ near the village of _____.

39. We have used the technique of comparing to identify the appearances of Jesus up to his ascension. Our comparison has reviewed all the Gospels and the book of 1 Corinthians. Now turn to Cartoon Narrative 2 on pages 275 and 276 and review what you have learned by identifying the person or persons (and the place), to whom the risen Christ appeared on each occasion. Then check with the feedback below.

40. The resurrection of Christ and the appearances to his disciples have always had an important part in the preaching of the message of salvation. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:1, "Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you..." In verses 3-4 which follow, Paul goes on to say that the message of the gospel has two parts.

- The first part is that Christ died for our _____.
- The second part is that Christ was _____ on the _____ day.

41. Now read 1 Corinthians 15:5-7. To which of these parts of the message of salvation does Paul testify in these verses? _____

42. Read the following verses and identify the part of the message of salvation which is being talked about. Each example is from the preaching of the apostles.

- Acts 2:32: _____
- Acts 4:2: _____
- Acts 4:33: _____

Answers

- | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|------------------------------------|-----|----|---------------------------------|-----|-----|--|
| 38. | 7. | 7/ Galilee | 39. | 4. | To Cleopas and his companion | 39. | 10. | The ascension from the Mount of Olives |
| | 8. | 500/ mountain/ Galilee | | 5. | To the apostles without Thomas | 40. | a) | sins |
| | 9. | James/ apostles | | 6. | To the apostles with Thomas | 41. | b) | raised, third |
| | 10. | apostles/ascension/Olives/ Bethany | | 7. | To 7 apostles | 42. | a) | The resurrection |
| 39. | 1. | Mary Magdalene | | 8. | To more than 500 disciples | | b) | The resurrection |
| | 2. | To the women | | 9. | To James and the other apostles | | c) | The resurrection |
| | 3. | To Peter | | | | | | |

43. Which of the following is true?
- a. The resurrection of Christ was an important part of the preaching of the early Christians and should be a part of our preaching as well.
- b. The resurrection of Christ was an important part of the preaching of the early Christians but it does not need to be a part of our preaching since these things happened long ago.
44. Fill in the spaces below for the ten appearances of Christ. To whom, and where did the risen Christ appear in each case?
- | | | |
|---------------|-----|-------|
| Early morning | 1. | _____ |
| | 2. | _____ |
| Later | 3. | _____ |
| The evening | 4. | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Late at night | 5. | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Week later | 6. | _____ |
| At dawn | 7. | _____ |
| | 8. | _____ |
| | | _____ |
| Place unknown | 9. | _____ |
| In Judea | 10. | _____ |

45. **For the Group Meeting:**

Practise telling the ten appearances in chronological order so that you will be able to explain them to your group at the next meeting (use Cartoon Narrative 2 as a guide). Also be prepared to discuss the way in which the resurrection should be used in the preaching of the message of salvation.

46. Now do Test 1A on page 241. From now on, remember to do the Test after each lesson.

Answers

- | | | | | |
|--------|--------|---|--------|---|
| 43. a. | 44. 4. | To Cleopas and his companions on the road to Emmaus | 44. 7. | To 7 disciples by on the Sea of Galilee |
| 44. 1. | 5. | To the apostles, without Thomas, in the upper room | 8. | To more than 500 disciples on a mountain in Galilee |
| 2. | 6. | To the apostles with Thomas in the upper room | 9. | To James and the other apostles |
| 3. | | | 10. | The ascension from the Mount of Olives. |
| | | | | |