

An Empty Tomb

- I. Background (John 19:28-42; Matt. 27:57):
 - A. Jesus was crucified, dead & buried (rich man's new tomb in a garden)
 - B. Jesus' closest companions watched Him being placed in the tomb
- II. Tombs
 - A. Built into large rock – hollowed, low entrance, shelves, ossuaries
 - B. The wealthy would protect the entrance with large stones
- III. An Empty Tomb (John 20:1-10)
 - A. Mary's discovery
 - B. Peter & John find evidence & believe it
 1. Stone rolled away
 2. No body
 3. Saw linen cloths lying there
 4. Saw face cloth folded by itself
 5. Believed evidence of resurrection and went home
- IV. Mary's Distress & Glorious Encounter (John 20:11-18)
 - A. Distressed because Jesus was not in the tomb
 1. Looked in the tomb and saw two angels
 - *"Why are you weeping?"*
 - *"I will tell you why. They have taken away my Lord..."*
 2. Turned around in distress and saw Jesus (gardener)
 - *"Why are you weeping?"*
 - *"Sir, do you know where He has been laid? Did you take Him?"*
 - B. Encounters Jesus resurrected
 1. "Mary"
 2. Clings to Jesus

Where would you rather find Jesus: in the tomb, or outside of the tomb?