

**More of  
the Story of  
Easter  
2024**



## Things to Consider for a Wednesday crucifixion:

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
Passover	1 <sup>st</sup> Day	2 <sup>nd</sup> Day	3 <sup>rd</sup> Day	4 <sup>th</sup> Day
	Unleavened Bread	Unleavened Bread	Unleavened Bread	Unleavened Bread & Feast of Firstfruits
<b>Not a Sabbath</b>	<b>High Sabbath</b>	<b>Not a Sabbath</b>	<b>Regular Sabbath</b>	<b>Not a Sabbath</b>
Crucifixion?				Resurrection
Day 1	Night 1 Day 2	Night 2 Day 3	Night 3 Day 4	Night 4

- 4 days and 4 nights
- Matthew 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall **the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**
- Women would have gone to the tomb on Friday (which was not a Sabbath) to anoint Jesus' body if Jesus had been crucified on Wednesday
- Mark 16:1 **And when the sabbath was past,** Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.

## Things to consider for a Thursday crucifixion:

<b>Thursday</b> Passover	<b>Friday</b> 1st Day Unleavened Bread	<b>Saturday</b> 2nd Day Unleavened Bread	<b>Sunday</b> 3 <sup>th</sup> Day Unleavened Bread & Feast of Firstfruits
<b>Not a Sabbath</b>	<b>High Sabbath</b>	<b>Regular Sabbath</b>	<b>Not a Sabbath</b>
Crucifixion?			Resurrection
Day 1	Night 1 Day 2	Night 2 Day 3	Night 3

## Things to consider for a Friday crucifixion:

<b>Friday</b> Passover	<b>Saturday</b> 1st Day Unleavened Bread	<b>Sunday</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Day Unleavened Bread & Feast of Firstfruits
<b>Not a Sabbath</b>	<b>High Sabbath &amp; Regular Sabbath</b>	<b>Not a Sabbath</b>
Crucifixion?		Resurrection
Day 1	Night 1 Day 2	Night 2

Timeline for a Thursday crucifixion seems to best fit the scriptures.

### **Where did the word Easter come from?**

Easter is mentioned once in the Bible. It is separate from the days of unleavened bread, which starts with Passover.

#### Acts 12:1-4

Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. **(Then were the days of unleavened bread.)** And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; **intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.**

There are 2 explanations according to Google.

1. Easter comes from the ancient pagan festival of Astarte. Also known as Ishtar (pronounced "Easter"). This festival has always been held late in the month of April.

It was, in its original form, a celebration of the earth "regenerating" itself after the winter season. At the center of attention was Astarte, the female deity. She is known in the Bible as the "queen of heaven" (Jeremiah 7:18; 44:17-25).

2. Easter is considered the "Christian Passover" which is 3 days and the Jewish Passover which is 8 days. This idea comes from the following passage.

### 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. **For even** Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

## **Offerings in the Catholic Church**

Palms are only used on Palm Sunday. Incense is used every Sunday. In liturgy, incense is used to symbolize the act of purification and sanctification. Catholics incense people and

things that they want to make and keep holy by their prayers. The smoke, is supposed to be a sign of the prayer rising up so the blessings can come down. It is made of frankincense and myrrh

Many churches pick and choose things out of the Jewish law for worship. Sometimes, things are simply made up.

But God was very specific in His instructions to Israel.

### Leviticus 2:1-2

And when any will offer a meat offering unto the LORD, **his offering shall be of fine flour; and he shall pour oil upon it, and put frankincense thereon:** And he shall bring it to Aaron's sons the priests: and he shall take thereout his handful of the flour thereof, and of the oil thereof, with all the frankincense thereof; **and the priest shall burn the memorial of it upon the altar, to be an offering made by fire, of a sweet savour unto the LORD:**

God had very specific ways for the priests to take care of His temple, His house. There were

serious penalties for disobeying Him.

Exodus 30:34-38

And the LORD said unto Moses, Take unto thee sweet spices, stacte, and onycha, and galbanum; these sweet spices with **pure frankincense**: of each shall there be a like weight: **And thou shalt make it a perfume, a confection after the art of the apothecary, tempered together, pure and holy: And thou shalt beat some of it very small, and put of it before the testimony in the tabernacle of the congregation, where I will meet with thee: it shall be unto you most holy.** And as for the perfume which thou shalt make, ye shall not make to yourselves according to the composition thereof: it shall be unto thee holy for the LORD. **Whosoever shall make like unto that, to smell thereto, shall even be cut off from his people.**

There were a lot of things that happened during and after the day of the crucifixion. We are going to look at some of them, to fill in more about Easter.

**Thursday—the day of crucifixion**

Man was allowed direct access to God because of Jesus' death paying for man's sin. The temple veil, behind which was the "holy of holies" where only the high priest could go to meet with God, was torn in 2 from the top to the bottom. God was the one who tore it to give man direct access to Him.

### Matthew 27:50-51

Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, **the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom**; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

Joseph of Arimathaea was allowed to take Jesus body

### Mark 15:42-46

And now when the even was come, because it was **the preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath**, Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus. And Pilate marvelled if he were already dead: and calling unto him the

centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead. And when he knew it of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. And he bought fine linen, and took him down, and wrapped him in the linen, and laid him in a sepulchre which was hewn out of a rock, and rolled a stone unto the door of the sepulchre.

Nicodemus was also involved in making sure Jesus' body was secured in a new tomb. He brought about 100 pounds of myrrh (remember the wise men?) and aloes to make sure the corruption of the body would not be obvious.

#### John 19:39-42

And there came also **Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight.** Then took they the body of Jesus, and **wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury.** Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden; and in the garden a new sepulchre, wherein was never man yet laid. There laid they Jesus therefore **because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand.**

The women who followed Jesus saw where Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus laid Jesus' body, before returning to prepare spices and ointments to anoint His body after the Sabbath. (There were 2 Sabbath days in a row, the high Sabbath on Friday and the regular Sabbath on Saturday.)

Luke 23:54-56

**And that day was the preparation**, and the sabbath drew on. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. **And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.**

**Friday—a Sabbath—the first day of  
Unleavened Bread**

**Jesus' Descent into Hell**

You must understand the following story that Jesus told. It explains that the Old Testament saints, the faithful people from Adam through

the last of Jesus' apostles, did not go to heaven when they died. They descended into Hell, not because they were "bad," but because they are waiting for the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth—they are God's earthly people.

This place of comfort is known as Abraham's bosom.

Luke 16:22-26

And it came to pass, that **the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom**: the rich man also died, and was buried; **And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.** And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for **I am tormented in this flame.** But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things: **but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented.** And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would

come from thence.

Abraham's bosom is the place that Jesus was talking about with the penitent thief. Jesus was going to go to Abraham's bosom and the thief, now a believer, would be there, too. Jesus called it "paradise," so it was Heaven for God's earthly people.

#### Luke 23:42-43

And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. **And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.**

King David prophesied that Jesus' soul would be in hell, but also that it would not stay there, presumably like the rest of the Old Testament saints. His body would not be dead long enough to start decaying.

#### Psalms 16:10

For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

At Pentecost, Peter reminded everyone of

David's prophecy of the Resurrection.

Acts 2:27

Because **thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.**

Jesus' activities in Hell are debated. The Catholic Church calls it the "Harrowing of Hell."

Specifically, some churches believe that after His death, Christ descended into hell in order to rescue the souls of the just, starting with Adam and Eve, who had died under the Fall. When Jesus descended, he broke down the doors of hell, unbound the prisoners held in chains, and then led the just to their heavenly paradise.

This belief would mean that every person who died before Christ's crucifixion, believers and unbelievers, would have been locked up in chains as prisoners until Christ came to "free" them. It is hard to imagine anyone thinking that God would have treated believers and unbelievers the same!

The writer of Hebrews tells us that faithful people

died (like we do today,) knowing that God had something better in mind for them. For them, it was a place of comfort, Abraham's bosom.

Hebrews 11:13-16

**These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.** For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. **But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.**

The Old Testament faithful desired a better country, a heavenly country. But it was not in Heaven, it was the new city of Jerusalem, which would come down out of Heaven, to the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth with Jesus Christ as their King. God was always going to live with them, not the other way around.

Revelation 21:1-3

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, **Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.**

Some verses cause people (in error) to think of all of the Old Testament saints as captives:

The prophecy in Psalms, of Jesus ascending to heaven and leading “captivity captive.” This means that they were captive before (captivity) and had no choice but to follow Him where He took them (captive.) That does not sound like the Old Testament faithful going to their heavenly country!

Psalms 68:18

**Thou hast ascended on high, thou hast led captivity captive:** thou hast received gifts for

men; yea, for the rebellious also, that the LORD God might dwell among them.

Here is the fulfillment of the Psalm. This passage also confirms Jesus' descent into Abraham's bosom. It also mentions Christ's ascent, but not that He took anyone else with Him.

### Ephesians 4:7-10

But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. **Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.**

**(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?** He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)

We can find a better explanation in the book of Judges. The book of Judges also includes "lead thy captivity captive," but is talking about victors in a battle. The victors are given dominion over the nobles among the people and over the mighty that they conquered.

### Judges 5:12-13

Awake, awake, Deborah: awake, awake, utter a song: arise, Barak, and **lead thy captivity captive**, thou son of Abinoam. Then he made **him that remaineth have dominion over the nobles among the people: the LORD made me have dominion over the mighty.**

This is a much more plausible explanation. Christ conquered death and Hell.

### Romans 6:9

Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; **death hath no more dominion over him.**

He did it for us! Christ's victory made us righteous!

### 2 Corinthians 5:20-21

Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. **For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**

Christ, as a victor over death for us, was given dominion over all things in this world and the world to come! He led captivity captive.

Ephesians 1:19-21

And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in **Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion,** and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

The Bible tells us what Christ did when He descended into Hell. As we know from the story of the rich man and Lazarus, the souls in Abraham's bosom and those in Hell can see and hear each other. Who was in Hell that Jesus did lead captivity captive? Not the Old Testament saints! It was particularly the angels in Noah's time, who did Satan's bidding by taking human women, and producing angel/human hybrid giants.

### Genesis 6:1-4

And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That **the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.** And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. **There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.**

We know that “the sons of God” in the passage above are angels. Here, in the verse below, angels are clearly referred to as “sons of God,” because Satan is among them.

### Job 1:6

Now there was a day **when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan** came also among them.

After He gave up His spirit on the cross, Jesus

went to Abraham's bosom, to preach to the angels (also known as spirits) in prison, Hell, that had corrupted human bloodlines in Noah's time. Christ let them know He had won power over Satan and death, and let them know He had dominion over them.

### 1 Peter 3:18-22

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: **By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah,** while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) **by the resurrection of Jesus Christ: Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.**

This is so important, that in the 2 short letters

that Peter wrote, he mentioned the angels that sinned being in Hell, waiting for judgement, twice!

### 2 Peter 2:4-6

**For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;** And spared not the old world, but saved Noah the eighth person, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood upon the world of the ungodly; And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;

Jude wrote only 25 verses, but devoted one of them to, “the angels which kept not their first estate” (as a spirit being) who produced giants with human women.

### Jude 6

**And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the**

## **judgment of the great day.**

There is also scripture to show that Jesus was the only one who ascended to Heaven after the crucifixion. He did not take the Old Testament saints, as some churches teach. Peter reminded everyone about David's prophecy. David's body was still in his sepulcher, and David had not ascended, but David had prophesied about Jesus' resurrection. Jesus' body did not see corruption and His soul was not left in Hell (Abraham's bosom.)

### Acts 2:29-35

Men and brethren, let me freely speak unto you of **the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day.** Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, **that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption. For David is not ascended into the heavens:** but he saith himself, The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right

hand, Until I make thy foes thy footstool.

Jesus made it a point to tell His followers that no man had ascended up to Heaven, except Himself, and He had come down from Heaven. This is a good indication that going up to Heaven was not a part God's program for the Old Testament saints.

### John 3:13-15

**And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.** And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Don't believe that the Old Testament saints had a "lesser" program! As part of the Church, the Body of Christ, we know that when we die, we will instantly be with Christ, who is sitting at the right hand of His father in Heaven. But Satan and

his angels still have access to Heaven, so Heaven is not as it will be in eternity.

Job 15:15

Behold, he putteth no trust in his saints; yea, **the heavens are not clean in his sight.**

There will be a new earth and a new heaven

Revelation 21:1-3

And I saw a new heaven and a **new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away;** and there was no more sea.

The other part of, “When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men,” that is not discussed is the gifts Christ gave to men when He led captivity captive.

John the Baptist had told them that Christ would baptize them with the Holy Ghost.

Matthew 3:11

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but **he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost,** and with fire:

After Christ's resurrection, Peter said that the Jews would receive the *gift* of the Holy Ghost by believing that Christ was their savior and king.

### Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and **ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

Then, Peter and the rest of Christ's Jewish followers found out that the gift of the Holy Ghost was given to Gentiles, as well.

### Acts 10:45

And they of the **circumcision which believed were astonished**, as many as came with Peter, **because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.**

Paul listed some of the gifts the Gentiles received from Christ then He gave gifts to men: the gift of grace, the gift of justification, and the gift of righteousness, the gift of eternal life, of faith, and of grace. The gift came upon all men unto justification of life.

### Romans 5:15-18

But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, **and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.** And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgment was by one to condemnation, **but the free gift is of many offences unto justification.** For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of **the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)** Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one **the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life.**

Most importantly, for those who believe on Jesus Christ, through Him will receive the gift of eternal life!

### Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but **the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

We are given faith.

Ephesians 2:8

**For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:**

We are given grace.

Ephesians 4:7

**But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.**

### **Saturday—7<sup>th</sup> Day Sabbath**

The Jewish leadership went to Pilate and asked for a guard to be put on the tomb. It was now 2 days since the crucifixion. They understood that Jesus had prophesied that He would rise again after 3 days.

Matthew 27:62-66

**Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again.**

Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, **lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first.** Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can. So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

### **Sunday—not a Sabbath—the Feast of Firstfruits**

After the 2 Sabbath days (Feast of Unleavened bread and regular Sabbath) following the crucifixion, the women could finally go to Jesus' tomb to anoint His body with spices.

Mark 16:1-2

And **when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.** And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

Mark records that it was Mary Magdalene that saw Jesus first.

### Mark 16:9

Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, **he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.**

John records the conversation between Jesus and Mary Magdalene.

### John 20:15-16

Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

Jesus' telling Mary not to touch Him because He had not yet ascended to His Father is another passage that shows that He did not take the Old Testament saints with Him when He ascended out of Hell.

### John 20:17

**Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my**

**brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.**

The disciples did not believe Mary Magdalene when she told them she had seen Jesus.

Mark 16:10-11

And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept. **And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.**

Two of Jesus' followers, Cleopas and Simon (more about Simon in the next passage) walked to Emmaus on that Easter Sunday. Jesus joined them.

Luke 24:13-21

And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. But their eyes were holden that they should not know him. And

he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad? And **the one of them, whose name was Cleopas**, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days? And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him. But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: **and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.**

In this passage, Simon was the one with Cleopas, not Simon Peter. These 2 went to the eleven apostles and Peter was with the eleven. (Remember Thomas was the only one who was not there.)

### Luke 24:29-35

But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.

And he went in to tarry with them. And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and **found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.** And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread. But the disciples didn't believe these followers of Jesus either.

### Mark 16:12-13

After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country. **And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them.**

I'm sure it was a dramatic entrance when the eleven were telling them they didn't believe

Jesus had risen and then Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them!!

Luke 24:36

And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Paul tells us that after Peter and the rest of His disciples saw Jesus, Jesus appeared to over 500 people all at the same time.

1 Corinthians 15:5-6

**And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.**

The only place we know that there was a crowd where Jesus could appear to, after His resurrection, was when the people came out of their graves after Jesus was resurrected. They certainly would need to be told what was happening if they were going to be effective witnesses!

These believers could not have been long dead, otherwise, people who were living, friends and family, would not know who they were. They were resurrected like Lazarus, in their earthly bodies, and would die again.

### Matthew 27: 50-53

Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; **and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.**

Also on Sunday, the men who were hired to guard Jesus' tomb went to the chief priests to tell them what they had seen. They were paid-off by the elders to say that they had fallen asleep on duty and Jesus' disciples had carried off His body. They were also promised that if the governor heard about it, they would be protected by the Jewish leaders. Many Jews believe it to this day.

### Matthew 28:11-15

Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. **And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept. And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you.** So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.