

"And They Remembered His Words" (Luke 24:8)

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April 17, 2022

The women arrived at the tomb *"very early in the morning"* (v. 1). Mornings are such a peaceful, hopeful time of day. As the sun rises there is the promise of a new day, a new beginning. We're taught that *"morning or dawn in springtime instills its charm in human minds [and] corresponds to the state of peace of angels in heaven..."* (HH 289). In discovering the stone rolled away and the body of the Lord Jesus gone, two men in "shining garments" tell the "greatly perplexed" women that the Lord has risen, adding, *"Remember how He spoke to you when He was in Galilee..."* (v. 6). And then it says the women *"remembered His words"* (v. 8). We might wonder how they could have forgotten. The Lord had warned them several times that He was going to be crucified and then rise the third day. How could this detail have slipped their minds? The disciples had evidently forgotten this detail too because when the women reported to them what they had just learned *"they did not believe them"* (v. 11). Such is the grip of darkness, of falsity and evil, when it takes hold of our mind and drags us down. We come to the tomb weeping. We forget what the Lord has told us. Fear clouds our thinking, and we arrive without hope, joy, laughter, or optimism. But then within the darkness of that empty tomb two angels bathe us in His light. As soon as these women, these loyal followers of the Lord, began thinking in the Lord's light again, their faith was restored. They had joy and hope again. We're taught that *"in the next life, people who have loved the Divine truths of the Word with deep affection for the truth, live in the light and are constantly bathed in the light of heaven..."* (HH 489). As we go through life, we realize more and more that without the Lord, we can do nothing. This is like a resurrection because *"we die as to our former self and rise again as to the new"* (AC 2916). It is through the power of His glorified Human that we surrender our old, broken ways and receive a new life, a "resurrected" life, for *"the Lord rises daily, indeed every single moment, in the minds of people [who wish to follow Him]"* (AC 2405).

Lessons: Luke 24:1-12; *Heaven & Hell* 289, 489