

Assignments on Mark 16

Please read Mark 16 and answer the following questions.

1. Who came to the tomb – 16:1,2? Why did they come?

2. Please read the following passages: Matthew 18:16; John 8:17; Deuteronomy 19:15; etc. (2 Corinthians 13:1; 1 Timothy 5:19; Hebrews 10:28). According to these passages, what is the importance of the witnesses and especially a plurality of witnesses?

3. **Special Assignment:** When various witnesses give their testimony, variations may occur between the accounts. Explain the significance of such variations. Do these necessarily constitute contradictions?

4. When did the women come? Study the various gospel accounts of the resurrection of Jesus. List verses that tell us on what day He rose.

5. **Special Assignment:** Study New Testament references to the first day of the week. Summarize what the passages say that show the importance of this day.

6. Other passages say that Jesus arose on the third day after His death. Some people have questions about how the days were counted. Study Luke 24:1,13-21 and explain how this record helps us understand how first-century people counted days.

7. What concern did the women have as they approached the tomb – 16:3,4? What did they observe when they arrived?

8. Describe what they observed when they entered the tomb – 16:5. How did they react?

9. What did the man say to them – 16:6?

10. **Special Assignment:** Study other passages about the resurrection of Jesus and list some reasons why His resurrection is important to us.

11. **Application:** Was the body of Jesus in the tomb when the women went in? What is the significance to us of the fact that the body was missing?

12. What instruction did the angel give the women – 16:7,8? So what did they do?

13. On what day did Jesus arise – 16:9? To whom did He first appear?

14. What did she do after Jesus appeared to her – 16:10,11? How did others respond?

15. To whom else did Jesus appear – 16:12? Where else is this appearance mentioned?

16. What did these people do and how did others respond to their report – 16:13?

17. To whom did Jesus appear later – 16:14? What did Jesus have to say to them?

18. **Special Assignment:** What conclusions can we reach from the fact that disciples were so slow to believe the reports of the resurrection? (Note: Remember that the disciples at first did not believe. This becomes significant later in the chapter.)

19. **Special Assignment:** Make a list of passages in the various accounts in which Jesus appeared alive after His resurrection.

20. **Special Assignment:** Explain why the appearances of Jesus as recorded in the Scriptures are important to our faith.

21. What responsibility did Jesus give to the apostles in 16:15? To whom did Jesus want the gospel preached? What can we learn from this?

22. Explain the importance of preaching in leading the lost to salvation. List other passages that describe our responsibility to spread this message.

23. What did Jesus say people must do in order to be saved – 16:16? Summarize the conditions of salvation based on the various gospel accounts of this commission.

24. **Case Study:** List other *passages* about the importance of baptism. Many people deny baptism is necessary as a condition to receive forgiveness. How would you respond?

25. List the signs that Jesus said would follow those who believe – 16:17,18. (Think: Today many people claim that they can do the signs, but do they do all of them?)

26. What did Jesus do after giving these instructions to the apostles – 16:19? What is the significance of sitting on the right hand of God?

27. According to 16:20, who actually did the signs listed in verses 17,18? List various passages where they did signs.

28. What purpose did signs accomplish? List other *passages* about the purpose of signs.

29. **Special Assignment:** Study John 20:30,31; 2 Timothy 3:16,17; 1 Corinthians 13:8-11; Jude 3; and similar passages. Since the purpose of the miracles was to confirm the word, do we still need this purpose accomplished today? Explain your answer.

30. **Case Study:** Some people claim that the signs of verses 17,18 should follow all believers even today. Notice 1 Corinthians 12:28-30; Acts 8:14-19. Did all believers do miracles in the first century? Verses 14-16 mention two groups of people who needed to believe: the apostles (v14) and those who hear the gospel (v16). According to verse 20, which group actually did the signs? What conclusions do you reach?

31. **Extra credit bonus question:** Some translations say Mark 16:9-20 are of questionable authenticity. Do some research and state the conclusions you reach about this issue.