

ANALYSIS:

1. Why did two disciples have a foot race? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What important fact did the disciples fail to understand which Jesus had told them? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How did Jesus reveal Himself to Mary Magdalene? \_\_\_\_\_
4. When, where and with what words does the risen Christ greet his disciples? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Upon whom does Jesus pronounce a blessing in this chapter? \_\_\_\_\_

---

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

The evidence for the resurrection of Christ is here authenticated by three lines of facts. [1] The empty tomb. It was discovered open and empty by Mary who hastily reports this fact to Peter and John who come and confirm the fact. Pilate had sealed and guarded the tomb. After the resurrection the terrified Roman guards were bribed by the Jews to spread the lie that Christ's body had been stolen. [2] The grave clothes. Peter and John race to the tomb, find it empty indeed, and observe the linen clothes lying in testimony of Christ's resurrection. They confirm the fact, and John believes. [3] The appearances of Jesus. Jesus appeared first to Mary Magdalene (Jo 20:11-18), then to other women (Mt 28:8-10), Peter (Lu 24:34), Emmaus disciples (24:13-33), disciples - - Thomas absent (Jo 20:19-24), disciples -- Thomas present (Jo 20:26-29), seven by the lake (Jo 21:1-23), multitude (1 Cor 15:6), eleven (Mt 28:16-20), Stephen (Acts 7:55), Paul (1 Cor 15:8). [4] The miracle of personal faith and regeneration. The former fearful disciples were empowered to boldly testify to the resurrection and to suffer greatly for it (Acts 4:1-18, 33; 5:17-32, 40-42). The transformed life of Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9:19-22) and Gentiles who were delivered from sin to righteousness in Christ (1 Cor 6:9-11) all confirm and establish this stupendous consummating fact of the Christian's faith!

Since our faith is founded on undisputable evidence, let us rejoice and challenge anyone who is seeking the truth to consider the facts just listed above. We have nothing to fear but can have strong confidence.

HELP:

1. Mary Magdalene returned from the open and empty sepulchre to report that Jesus' body was not there, and they ran to the tomb to see for themselves (vs 1-8).
2. They did not know the scriptures that he must rise from the dead (v 9). [Although Jesus had told them He would rise from the dead: Mt 16:21; 17:9, 23; 20:19; 26:32; 27:63; Mk 8:31; 9:31; Lu 18:33; 24:7].
3. Jesus spoke her name, "Mary," when she thought He was the gardener (v 16).
4. The same day (resurrection day), at evening, in a closed room Jesus appeared and spoke "Peace be unto you" (v 19).
5. Those who did not see Him after His resurrection, but yet have believed (v 29).