

ANALYSIS:

1. When the two Marys came to the sepulchre, what had already occurred? _____
2. Where did Jesus and the angels tell the women that Jesus would be seen of the disciples? _____
3. Why did the chief priests give large money to the soldiers to say that the disciples had stolen the body? _____
4. Who has all power in heaven and in earth? _____
5. Jesus gave the commandment of verses 19-20 to what specific group of men? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Most of the Christian world believes that the great commission, as Matthew 28:19-20 is commonly known, is a mandate that Jesus gave to everyone who believes on him. But as this chapter so plainly teaches, Jesus gave this special commandment to his eleven disciples who were uniquely gifted to accomplish this important task (Mk 16:15-20). And the eleven disciples and the other apostles finished the job (Mk 16:20; Col 1:6,23). Aren't you thankful that Jesus gave his apostles great sign gifts and abilities so that the gospel of Jesus Christ went unto our Gentile forefathers and from them down to us today.

The women, with fear and great joy, ran to tell the disciples that Jesus had risen. The fact of his resurrection should still bring great joy to each of our hearts every day that we think upon this incredible fact. His resurrection proved that he was indeed the very Son of God (Rom 1:4). His resurrection also proves that all the dead in Christ will also be resurrected one day (I Cor 15:23). The Lord Jesus Christ destroyed death, the grave, sin, and the law through his resurrection. Rejoice today!

HELP:

1. Jesus had already risen from the dead on Saturday afternoon (vv 5-6). See Matthew 12:40.
2. In Galilee (vv 7,10).
3. In order to pay them off for telling a lie that could have endangered their lives if the Roman governor had heard about it - that is, that the disciples stole the body of Jesus while the soldiers slept. Sleeping on watch was a very dangerous mistake for a paid Roman soldier (vv 12-15).
4. The risen Lord Jesus Christ (v 18).
5. The eleven disciples (v 16).