

## LESSON 18

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### The Meaning of the Resurrection

*Directions:* Read the cited scripture passages and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. Since the four gospel accounts of Jesus' resurrection differ, it is important to read them through the eyes of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Some examples of where the gospel resurrection accounts differ are:
  - A. The one who rolled away the stone from Jesus' tomb in Matthew 28:2 was \_\_\_\_\_.
  - B. But Mark 16:4, Luke 24:2, and John 20:1 do not \_\_\_\_\_.
  - C. In Matthew 28:7-8, and John 20:1-2 Mary Magdalene does not enter the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - D. But in Mark 16:5 and Luke 24:3 Mary Magdalene enters the tomb along with \_\_\_\_\_.
  - E. In Mark 16:1 Mary Magdalene, Mary the Mother of James, and Salome bring spices to anoint Jesus. But in Luke 24:10 Salome is replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - F. In John 20:1, however, Mary Magdalene visits Jesus' tomb with \_\_\_\_\_.
3. So the point to remember is, in the resurrection accounts, we cannot read the gospels only literally, we must rely on \_\_\_\_\_.
4. If Jesus' body physically left the tomb, this was because he had been \_\_\_\_\_.  
(see Mt 28:6 and Lk 24:6)
5. In other words, Jesus did not awake from the dead, roll back the stone, and walk out of the tomb under his own power. This was done to him by \_\_\_\_\_.
6. However, John 20:9 seems to imply that Jesus himself \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Now if nothing at all happened on that first Easter morning, why would the fearful disciples (see John 20:19) of that evening turn into brave and forthright speakers (Acts 2:14-41) only a short time later, on the feast of \_\_\_\_\_?
8. If there were no empty tomb, no "appearances" of Jesus after his death, none of the disciples would have become convinced of his \_\_\_\_\_. (Acts 2:24, 31)
9. On the other hand, if Jesus had walked the streets of Jerusalem for forty days after his resurrection, no Pharisee could possibly have doubted that Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The only ones who "saw" the risen Jesus were his \_\_\_\_\_.
11. What did they see? If they saw the actual body of Jesus come back to life, why did Mary Magdalene in John 20:15 not \_\_\_\_\_?

## Lesson 18 continued

12. If Jesus' body after the resurrection was similar to his body during life, how could he enter a room that had \_\_\_\_\_? (Jn 20:19)
13. But if the resurrection appearances were just hallucinations or imaginings, then how could Thomas put \_\_\_\_\_? (Jn 20:27)
14. Something must have happened for the disciples to become convinced Jesus was still alive after his \_\_\_\_\_.
15. But what? If his physical body resumed human life again after his death on the cross, then no one in Jerusalem at that time could possibly have \_\_\_\_\_.
16. But the Pharisees and many others in Jerusalem at that time did doubt the \_\_\_\_\_.
17. So what really did happen? Mary Magdalene apparently came to some sort of realization that Jesus lived after she visited his \_\_\_\_\_.
18. In Luke 24:30-31 two disciples recognize the risen Jesus when they are at table and \_\_\_\_\_.
19. In John 20:19 Jesus comes through locked doors to visit the fearful disciples. In this way Jesus acts out Matthew 18:20, which says:  
\_\_\_\_\_
20. In Matthew 28:16-20 after his resurrection, Jesus meets the eleven disciples at \_\_\_\_\_.
21. So what can we conclude from all of this? Obviously the early followers of Jesus believed that after he died, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.
22. One of the basic beliefs of the Christian religion is that Jesus rose from the dead. Or in other words, even after he died physically on the cross, Jesus still \_\_\_\_\_.
23. Jesus' death and resurrection prove that love is stronger and more durable than \_\_\_\_\_.