



Paying Attention
Luke 24:1-12

Luke 23:44-45 NIV 44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, 45 for the sun stopped shining. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Jesus called out with a loud voice, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.” When he had said this, he breathed his last. Whole land covered by darkness for 3 hours.



It was not an eclipse which only last a few minutes

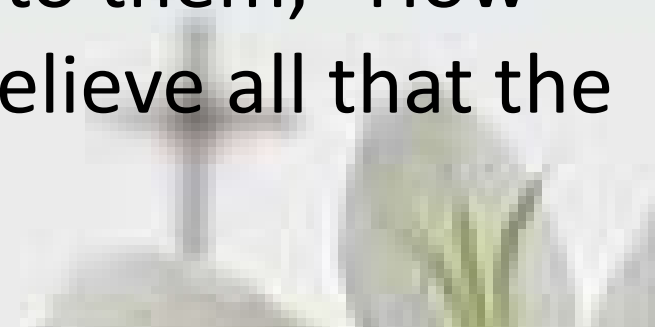
- This occurred during the Passover, which is always observed at the time of the full moon, which makes an eclipse of the sun impossible
- Notice scripture says, “the sun stopped shining”, it was the absence of light
- As the Light of the World was being extinguished
- Deep and dark hopeless came upon Jesus’ followers



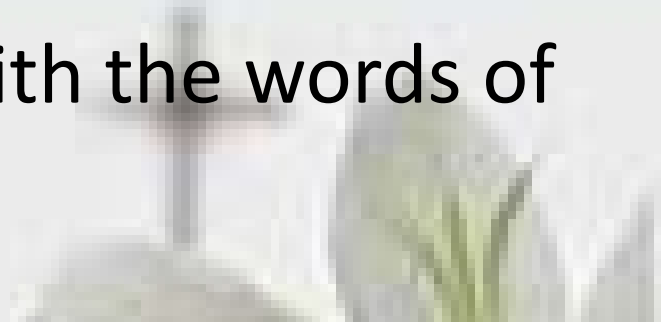
- **Luke 24:19-24 NIV** 19 “What things?” he asked. “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. 20 The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21 but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.



- **Luke 24:19-24 NIV** 22 In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23 but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. 24 Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”
- Jesus' response **vs. 25 NIV** He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken!

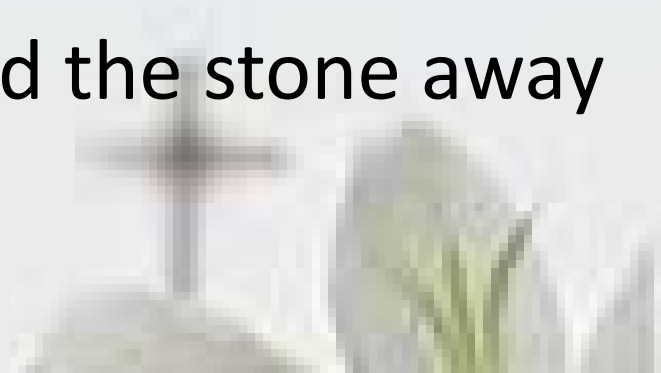


- **Their hopelessness had only one reason**
- They did not pay close attention to the words of Jesus, to the revealed Word God had given them. To believe them as truth and apply them to their circumstances
- All of Jesus' followers were just like these two men
- Turn to **Luke 24:1-14** where the first visitors to the tomb of Jesus had an encounter with the words of Jesus



Luke 24:1-14 NIV

- 1 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.
- Three important questions:
 - Where are the guards, who rolled the stone away and where is the body of Jesus?



Luke 24:1-14 NIV

- 4 While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. 5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead?”



Luke 24:1-14 NIV

- 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” 8 Then they remembered his words.



Luke 24:1-14 NIV

- 9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. 11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.



Luke 24:1-14 NIV

- 12 Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.



Oh, the agony of not being able to say goodbye to one they loved so deeply

- Jesus' burial was a rush job at best
- It was not uncommon for spices to be placed in the folds of the wrappings days after
- Driven by love, these women went to the last place they had seen the body of Jesus
- They encounter not their hopelessness, heartache, complete and total downheartedness, but the promises of Jesus

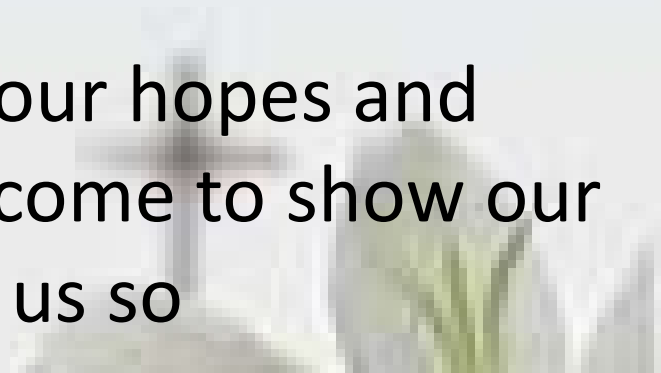
God's messengers asked the women a very basic question, "What are you doing here?"

- **1st Kings 19:9b NIV** And the word of the Lord came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?"
- The angel could have asked, "Do you look for a living person in a grave site?"
 - Answer – No a grave is the last place to look when you are seeking life



God's messengers asked the women a very basic question, "What are you doing here?"

- So why are you here looking for a living one among the dead ones?
- Why are you thinking like this?
- Their answer - This is where our hopelessness tells us He is at
- You don't understand, we saw all of our hopes and dreams placed in that tomb and we come to show our love and devotion to Him who loved us so



God's messengers asked the women a very basic question, "What are you doing here?"

- Has God ever asked you, "What are you doing here? Why are you thinking like that? Why are you looking for living answers among dead thinking?"
 - Why are you looking for living among the dead?
 - What would be your answer?



It was not the message from the angel that stirred their hearts, but the words of Jesus

- The angels gave them the blessed news, “He is not here: He has risen!”
 - This phrase stirs our hearts this morning but we are over 2,000 years after the fact with years of learning and teaching
- The women were unmoved by their message, there was no real comprehension



It was not the message from the angel that stirred their hearts, but the words of Jesus

- At best they were confused, what do they mean?
- But when they heard the words of Jesus, **vs. 8** then they remembered and were filled with glorious hope
- At least three times Jesus told his followers what was going to happen in Jerusalem
- It was not what they wanted to hear



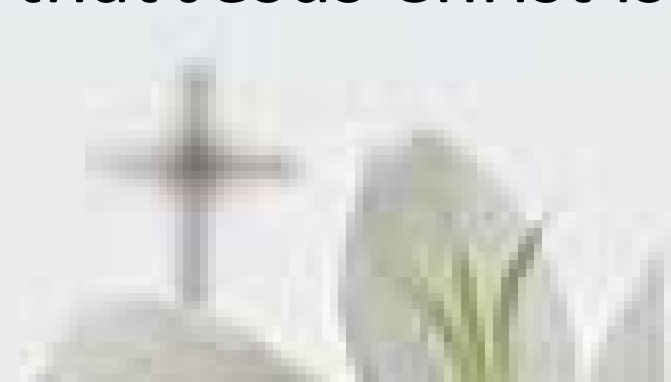
It was not the message from the angel that stirred their hearts, but the words of Jesus

- Remember – is not just recalling the words from memory but includes a nuance of understanding or insight
- It is always God's word, under the direction of the Holy Spirit, that brings to the soul what is necessary at the time



It was not the message from the angel that stirred their hearts, but the words of Jesus

- The women now believed Jesus was risen, not because the angels said so, but because Jesus said so.
- So, what are they going to do now?
 - Get all excited go tell everybody that Jesus Christ is King



The remaining followers of Jesus chose to stay in the dark because they refused to believe the words of Jesus

- **Vs. 9 NIV** When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.
 - They told them about the guards missing, stone rolled away, empty body wrappings, angels, reminded them of the words of Jesus

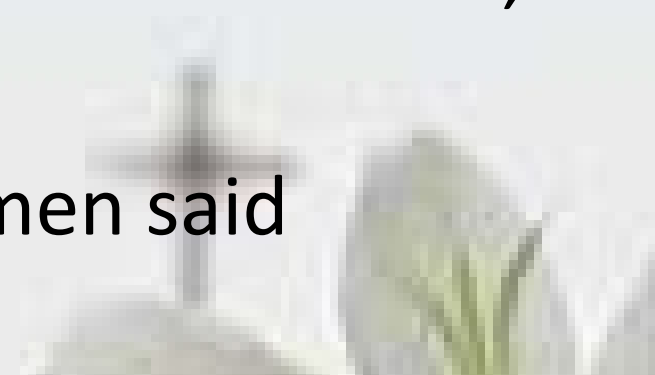
The remaining followers of Jesus chose to stay in the dark because they refused to believe the words of Jesus

- **Vs. 11 NIV** But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense
 - Ever listen to a person after a dental procedure with gas?
- This is what it sounded like to the Apostles – why?



The remaining followers of Jesus chose to stay in the dark because they refused to believe the words of Jesus

- They did not pay close attention to the words of Jesus thus they remained in the darkness of hopelessness
- Peter and John wanted to prove it to themselves, so they ran to the tomb
- They found it just the way the women said



The remaining followers of Jesus chose to stay in the dark because they refused to believe the words of Jesus

- Peter went to the self where Jesus' body would have been laid
- Bent over to examine it closely or looking with focus
- He found the body wrappings lying by themselves
 - Undisturbed like the body just rose up out of them



The remaining followers of Jesus chose to stay in the dark because they refused to believe the words of Jesus

- **John 20:7 NLT** while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings.
- It is clear the body wasn't stolen but something remarkable has taken place, but Peter can't quite bring himself to believe Jesus is alive



The remaining followers of Jesus chose to stay in the dark because they refused to believe the words of Jesus

- He went away wondering
 - Wondering – to be extraordinarily impressed or disturbed by, to admire and wonder at
- He is amazed but not yet believing – why?
 - He did not pay close attention to the words of Jesus thus he remained in darkness

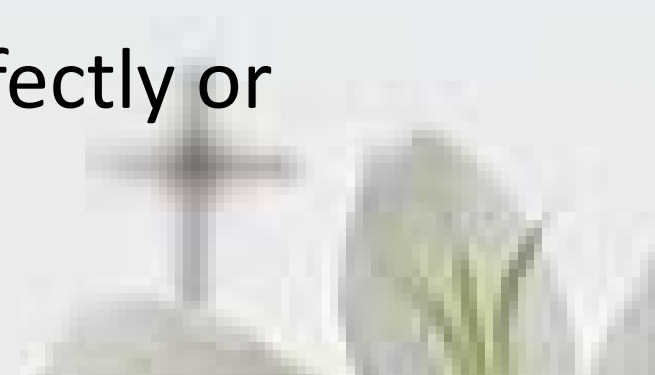


How different would the silence of Saturday have been if they had just paid close attention and trusted the words of Jesus?

- Saturday is that time between the darkness and God's answer
- To not have a preconditioned understanding but to simply listen and respond to the words of Jesus
- How different would our lives be if we just simply paid close attention to the words of Jesus and trusted their truthfulness in all of our darkness?

How different would it be if you paid close attention and trusted the words of Jesus?

- **John 3:16-19 NIV** 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him
 - Perish – to utterly destroy + perfectly or completely



How different would it be if you paid close attention and trusted the words of Jesus?

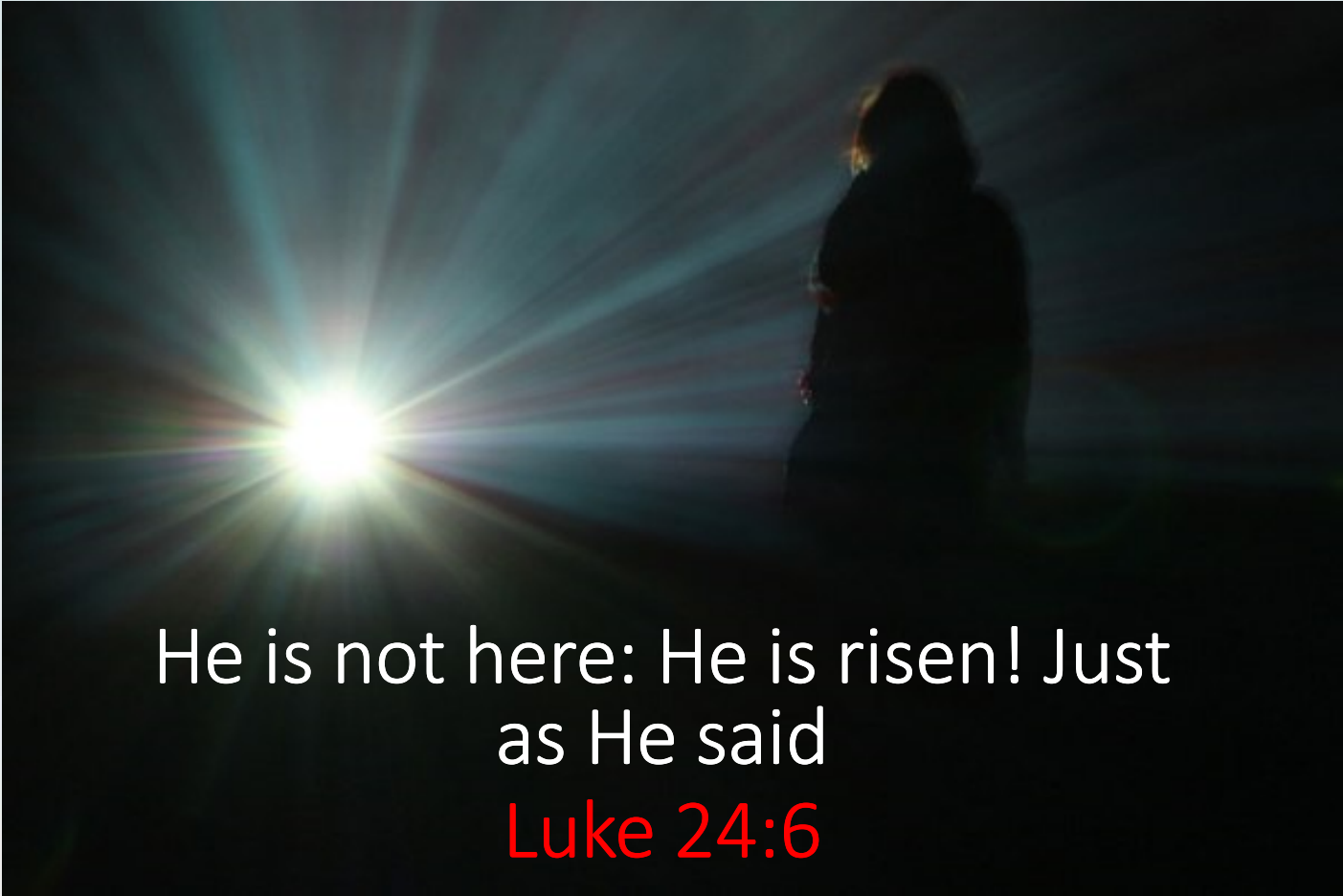
- **John 3:16-19 NIV** 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. 19 This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.



How different would it be if you paid close attention and trusted the words of Jesus?

- **John 14:6 NIV** Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.





He is not here: He is risen! Just
as He said

Luke 24:6