

The Resurrection from Mark 16

Teacher's of the Law version

CHARACTERS: Caiaphas, Nicodemus, Joseph of Arimathea, Jesus, angel

SETTING: Jerusalem, after Jesus resurrection

RUN TIME: 4 minutes.

Before you begin: Are Nicodemus and Joseph convinced Jesus did rise from the dead or are they questioning what they heard? Read John 19:38 Now Joseph was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews. Caiaphas pays the Roman soldiers to lie and say the disciples stole the body. (Mt. 28:11-13). What does that tell you about how Caiaphas feels about this situation? Read this first as if only Joseph believes and then as if both do. How does that change your delivery?

CAIAPHAS: Nicodemus, you and Joseph were sure that Jesus of Nazareth was dead when you put him in the tomb?

NICODEMUS: Absolutely. He was dead.

CAIAPHAS: So what is this new rumor you two have herd?

JOSEPH: When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body.

NICODEMUS: They went very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise.

JOSEPH: On their way to the tomb and they asked each other who would roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb.

NICODEMUS: But when they arrived, they said they looked up and saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

CAIAPHAS: The Roman soldiers should have been more careful.

NICODEMUS: As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side.

JOSEPH: They were alarmed.

NICODEMUS: They said an angel spoke to them.

CAIAPHAS: And what did this angel say?

ANGEL: Don't be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.

JOSEPH: Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb.

NICODEMUS: They said nothing to anyone at first, because they were afraid.

CAIAPHAS: So, according to these unreliable women, Jesus rose early on the first day of the week and he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.

NICODEMUS: Yes. She went and told those who had been with him and who were mourning and weeping.

CAIAPHAS: When they heard that Jesus was alive and that she had seen him, did they believe it?

JOSEPH: Not at first But afterward Jesus appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking in the country.

NICODEMUS: These returned and reported it to the rest; but they did not believe them either.

JOSEPH: Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating.

NICODEMUS: He rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen.

JOSEPH: They say Jesus said to them

JESUS: Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

NICODEMUS: And Jesus said these signs will accompany those who believe:

JESUS: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.

JOSEPH: After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God.

CAIAPHAS: Impossible!

JOSEPH: The disciples have gone out and are preaching everywhere.

NICODEMUS: The Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.