

I Have Not Yet Ascended (John 20: Easter)

Dr. John Niemelä

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INTRODUCTION TO THE MESSAGE:

JESUS OFTEN FORETOLD DEPARTURE AND ASCENSION

7³³ Therefore Jesus said: "For a short time, I am still with you. Then I am going to the One who sent Me."³⁴ You will look for Me and you will not find Me; and where I am you cannot come."

8²¹ Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and you will look for Me, but you will die in your sin. Where I am going you cannot come."

13³³ "Little children, I am with you a little while longer. You will look for Me, and just as I told the Judeans, 'Where I am going you cannot come,' so now I tell you..."³⁶ "Lord," Simon Peter said to Him, "where are You going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow Me now; but you will follow Me later."³⁷ "Lord," Peter asked Him, "why can't I follow You now? I will lay down my life for You!"

12³² And as for Me, if I am lifted up from the earth I will draw all peoples to Myself."³³ He said this to indicate what kind of death He was about to die.³⁴ The crowd answered Him, "We have heard from the Law that the Christ remains forever. So how can You say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this Son of Man?"

OCCASIONALLY HE MENTIONED HIS RESURRECTION

2¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Destroy this sanctuary and I will raise it up in three days!" ...²¹ But He was talking about the sanctuary of His body.²² So when He was raised from the dead His disciples remembered that He had said this. And they believed the Scripture and the statement that Jesus had made.

WE KNOW THAT THESE EVENTS HAPPENED IN THIS ORDER

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Crucifixion: | Friday, April 3, A.D. 33 |
| 2. Resurrection: | Sunday, April 5, A.D. 33 |
| 3. Post-resurrection ministry: | April 5–May 14, A.D. 33 |
| 4. Ascension: | Thursday, May 14, A.D. 33 |
| 5. Pentecost: | Sunday, May 24, A.D. 33 |

DO WE BENEFIT FROM HINDSIGHT? WHAT WOULD THE ELEVEN HAVE THOUGHT?

Mary and other women discover the empty tomb (20:1) 3

She brought Peter and John (20:2-9)

Mary wept and finally entered the tomb (20:10-11)

She spoke with two angels (20:12-13)

She spoke with Jesus, but did not recognize Him until He called her by name (20:14-16)

He said to stop clinging, because He had not ascended (20:17)

She announced His resurrection (20:18)

He appeared that evening to the ten w/o Thomas (20:19-23) 4

A week later He appeared to the eleven w/ Thomas (20:26-27)

Thomas now believed that Jesus rose bodily (20:28-29)

John 13:10-11 and 15:3 show Thomas already was a believer

What he now believes is that Jesus rose bodily

*Some believed in His bodily resurrection before seeing Him
Nicodemus/Joseph of Arimathea*

The apostle John

CONCLUSION