



Daily Reflections

April 20, 2019

Scripture

Luke 24: 1-12

At daybreak on the first day of the week the women who had come from Galilee with Jesus took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them.

They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.

They said to them,

"Why do you seek the living one among the dead?

He is not here, but he has been raised.

Remember what he said to you while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners and be crucified, and rise on the third day."

And they remembered his words.

Then they returned from the tomb and announced all these things to the eleven and to all the others.

The women were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James; the others who accompanied them also told this to the apostles,

but their story seemed like nonsense
and they did not believe them.
But Peter got up and ran to the tomb,
bent down, and saw the burial cloths alone;
then he went home amazed at what had happened.

Our Scripture Reflection

Why were the women, and eventually, the apostles so terrified? Because they forgot. Over and over again in the scriptures, especially in the book of Deuteronomy we are told to "Remember". Why is remembering so important? Because in the midst of our trials and tribulations we easily forget God's faithfulness to us so many times in the past. If we know that God has always been there for us, how can we not believe that He will not be there for us today and tomorrow? God is, always was and always will be faithful and true.

Food for your Journey

What really struck me in reading the text was the notion of remembering. The women did not expect to find signs of life at the tomb, but, as the two men remind the women, they would have expected this if they had remembered what Jesus told them. As we look at the world around us, what are we called to remember about what Jesus told us? Where can we expect to find life?

--Rev. Kevin A. Bowers

There is an unusual Easter card on the market. It is designed to look like a Christmas greeting card. The upper half of the card features a nativity scene with a baby in a manger, surrounded by adoring shepherds. The lower half of the card features those same shepherds, 30 years later, standing before Jesus' empty tomb.

Ever wonder which revelation of God was greater news to tell? Was it the birth of God's love, or the triumph of God's love over death and hell?

It takes child-like trust in God's love and assurance to have faith in these two visions of love incarnate.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear God, I pray...."I believe, heal my unbelief." Help me to know and trust that You are always with me as You promised. Amen