

*"And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. And he saith unto them, 'Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: He is risen; He is not here: behold the place where they laid Him.'" Mark 16:4-6 KJV*



*"He is not here..." We cannot say the same for Muhammad, Confucius, and a score of other men. They problem is, they were just men. Jesus still IS God in the flesh. The tomb was borrowed, because it was only needed for three days. It was sealed and guarded by Roman Guard. Cement was invented by Rome and was probably used to seal the tomb. Neither earthquake nor angels released Christ from its depths! It was opened to reveal His absence! No other group visits an *empty* tomb to reinforce their faith! Islamic worshippers visit the bones of the *dead* prophet Muhammad in Medina, Saudi Arabia. For years the USSR visited the embalmed body of Lenin. The Buddha's body was cremated and the relics were placed in monuments or stupas, some of which are believed to have survived until the present. For example, the Temple of the Tooth or Dalada Maligawa in Sri Lanka is the place where the right tooth relic of Buddha is kept at present. The deaths of all these men are recorded for posterity. Those religions which have no tombs worship a plethora of deities. Many have claimed to know the path to heaven, but only Christ physically returned from death and *"seen of above five hundred brethren at once. After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles."* Eternity's Sovereign killed death by dying for all true believers! Every man without Christ is doomed to an uncertain and Christless eternity. I feel sad for suicide bombers and their unsaved victims. They go from one raging inferno to another! Everyone in hell is a believer, but they are not a believer by faith in God's Word. Only faith in God's Word is saving faith. *"Faith cometh by hearing...the Word of God."* When I use the term "believer," that is what I mean. There are more witnesses and records of the resurrection of Jesus than the voyage of Columbus, and men still refuse to believe the documented facts. If you would disallow the writings of the Apostles and Prophets, you must disallow ALL recorded history! Scripture doesn't agree with human reason, so it is impossible for men to believe, because *"by grace are ye saved through faith and that NOT of yourselves; it is the GIFT of God!"* Men will spend their fortunes on medicine to live just a little longer. What foolishness! They choose to believe that mortal men can create eternal life rather than accept the documented records of death's defeat! Hell is a fool's choice, but a choice nonetheless! Jesus used the "sword" of the Cross to inflict Death's mortal wound. He submitted to death to show it had no power over *"the Way, the Truth, and the Life."* He destroyed death as if it were straw!*

The empty tomb in dawn's gray light,  
The sleeplessness of dreary night,  
Prepared them not for such a fright,  
The angel spoke from where He'd been,  
"Why seek ye here, the tomb within?  
He's not here, for he is risen." -CGP

His victory is marked by the simple *empty* stone tomb. Jesus said, *"only a wicked and adulterous generation seeks a sign."* The truly faithful do not need a sign. They believe by *faith*.

*"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Hebrews 11:1 KJV*