



20th Story

Risen and Ascension

Risen and Ascension

– 20th Story –

NAR Jesus had been buried in the tomb of Joseph from Arimathea. A large stone had been rolled in front of the tomb, but the priests were worried. They thought maybe someone would try to steal the body of Jesus and say that he had risen from the dead, like he said he would. So they went to Pilate.

Priest Sir, please, remember how Jesus lied and said he would rise again after three days? We fear someone will come and try to steal his body and claim that he did rise again. If you would please, order the tomb to be sealed and guarded at least until the third day.

Pilate Very well, you have a guard. Make the tomb as secure as it can be.

NAR So the chief priests had the soldiers seal the tomb and stand guard outside the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea where Jesus was.

the morning of the third day dawned, and Mary, Jesus's mother and Mary Magdalene went to the tomb with the spices for Jesus's body.

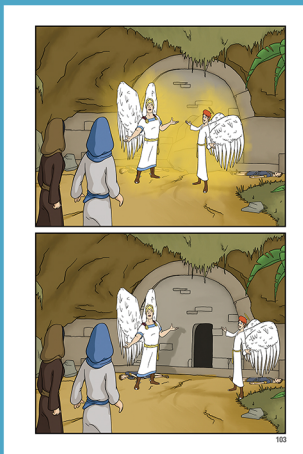
Mary Magdalene How will we open the tomb? The stone must be very heavy.
Mary you're right. It's very big. I hope maybe we can find someone to help us.

NAR As they were talking to one another, they came to the tomb. Suddenly there was an earthquake and out of the sky, like lightning, came two angels from Heaven! their clothes were so pure white that they shone bright. The soldiers that were standing guard were so afraid that they fainted, but Mary and Mary were startled and stood still watching.

Gabriel Mary! ...and Mary! Do not be afraid! I know that you came to see Jesus who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen just as he said. Come and look in the tomb. Now go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead. He is going before you to Galilee, and there you will see him. See, I have told you.

Mary Magdalene Mary, this is just as Jesus said!

Mary Absolutely! An angel of the LORD has just told us! The last time the angel came to me, he did not lie. Come, let's hurry to tell the disciples!



NAR As the two were running back to tell the disciples they were full of joy and amazement. Suddenly, Jesus met them along the way!

Jesus Mother! Mary!

Mary Jesus! My Lord! My son! Jesus! You're alive!

Jesus Do not be afraid any longer. Go and tell my disciples that I will meet them in Galilee.

NAR When they had worshipped Jesus and kissed his hands and feet where the nails had been, they continued to the disciples.

When they got to the disciples, they were eating and gathered together mourning for Jesus.

Mary Magdalene My friends! Jesus has risen from the dead!

Disciples What? huh?

Mary Magdalene Yes! We have just been to the tomb that is now empty, and saw him and talked to him while coming here!

Peter Mary please... We're all sad that Jesus is gone. It's hard for us all, but you can't come and tell us this story.. It's not possible.

Mary (Jesus's mother) No, Peter, it's true. I went also. I saw him. I saw my son, and our Lord. We went to the tomb, but it was empty. Then suddenly an angel of the LORD came and told us that Jesus is alive. He said to come to you and tell you to go to Galilee. Then, while we were coming here, we saw Jesus!

NAR When the disciples heard this, they were amazed! They wanted to believe, but how could they? How could Jesus, who they saw die, rise again and live? They did not yet understand his words that he would rise again on the third day. They hoped, and with that hope, they obediently went to Galilee as they were told.

They were all gathered together and were eating when suddenly right in the middle of them, Jesus appeared!

Jesus Peace be with you!

Disciples AAaaaaaahhhhh!!!!

NAR When Jesus had greeted them, they were afraid and thought he was a ghost.

Jesus Why are you afraid, and why do you doubt? Look at my hands. Look at my feet! It is me, Jesus!





James My....my Lord?
Peter Teacher?
Jesus Touch me, and see. Spirits do not have skin and bones as you can see I have now. Thomas, come and touch me.

Thomas My...my Lord! I believe!
Hesus Do you now believe having seen? Blessed are those who believe but have not seen.

NAR When he had said these things, Jesus asked them if they had anything to eat, and when they had given him some fish, he ate it. As they were all still watching him, Jesus began to speak.

Jesus My brothers, these are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, lthat everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled...

NAR And at that time, Jesus began to explain all of this teachings to his disciples and the Scriptures and finally said to them.

Jesus Therefore it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. Now let us go.

NAR So Jesus took his disciples to the top of a nearby mountain, and there blessed them.

Jesus Dear brothers, All authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to me. Go into all the world, and proclaim this Gospel to all creation. Make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to follow all that I have said and commanded. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. Finally, remember that I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Once Jesus had finished saying these things, He was lifted up into Heaven to sit at the right of God the Father. His disciples worshipped him and were so full of joy and gladness and returned to Jerusalem. And they were continually in the temple teaching and sharing the Gospel and praising God.

“Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end.” Matthew 28:20 NIrV