**R900\_Rumination for Apr. 24, 2022**

The **T**heme: **The First Day and the Eighth Day** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *In the end of the sabbath,* *as it began to dawn toward* ***the first day of the week****…* Mt. 28:1

The **T**hots:

1. **The First Day of the Week –**
2. At **D**awn. *In the* ***E****nd of the sabbath…*  **Mt. 28:1**

*…as it began to* ***Dawn*** *toward the first* ***D****ay of the week…; when it was yet* ***D****ark* Jn. 20:1

1. The **S**cene at the **S**epulchre. Mt. 28:2-10
2. A **S**izeable **E**arthquake **O**ccurred – *behold, there was a great earthquake* 20:2a
3. The **S**tone **E**ntrance of the **S**epulchre **O**pened – 20:5

*The angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and…rolled back the stone from the door*

1. The **S**ure **E**vidence of a Risen **S**aviour **O**bserved: 20:5, 6

*The angel… said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.*

1. They were **R**eminded of what their Master had said: *He is not here: for He is risen, as He said.*
2. They could **R**egard the place for themselves: O *Come, see the place where the Lord lay*
3. They were to **R**elay this to *His disciples and Peter that He goeth before you into Galilee:*

*there shall ye see Him, as He said unto you.* Mk. 16:7

1. The **S**cene Inside the **S**epulchre later: Jn. 20:2-10
2. The **I**nformation: *She runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid Him.* 20:2
3. The **I**nspection: *Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple* (John), *and came to the sepulchre.*
4. The **I**ncredibility: *Then Simon Peter…saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.* Jn. 20:6-7, NRSV
* The **C**ondition of the **C**loths **C**ould only point to a Resurrection!
1. The **I**mplicit Faith: *He saw, and believed*  20:8

1. **D**uring the **D**ay – the **E**ncounter with the Risen Christ:
2. **M**ary **M**agdalene was the first to see the **R**isen Christ. Mk. 16:9
3. She could not **R**ecognise the **R**isen Christ at first – *supposing Him to be the gardener* Jn. 20:15
4. But when she could, she **R**esponded with ***R****abboni*: *which is to say, Master.* 20:16, 17
5. The Two Disciples’ **M**eeting with the **M**essiah on the way to Emmaus. Mk. 16:12 cf. Lk. 24:13-35

 *After that He appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.*

1. Then the **M**eeting with the rest of the disciples – *And they went and told it to the rest.* Mk. 16:13, NKJV
2. At **D**usk on *the same* ***D****ay…being the first day of the week…*John 20:19-24
3. The **A**ppearance of Jesus to the **T**en of the **T**welve:

(Judas had committed suicide; Thomas was absent.) Acts 1:16-18; Jn. 20:24

1. His **G**reetings of **P**eace to them: 20:19

*The same…evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst…saith unto them, Peace be unto you.*

1. He **G**ave **P**roof of His **P**erson: 20:20

*He shewed unto them His hands and His side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.*

1. The **A**ssignment of Jesus to the **T**en – *He breathed on them, and saith unto them…* 20:22-23

*Receive ye the Holy Ghost: “Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them;*

*and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.”*

1. The **A**bsence of **T**homas:Jn. 20:24

*Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.*

1. **The Eighth Day of the Week John 20:26**

*And after eight days again His disciples were within, and Thomas with them:*

*then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.*

1. Thomas’ **E**arlier Demand for **P**roof of Jesus’ Resurrection: 20:25

*The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them,*

*Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails,*

*and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe.*

1. Jesus **E**xact **C**ommand to Thomas to **P**rove His **P**erson: Jn. 20:27

*Then saith He to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold My hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into My side: and be not faithless, but believing.*

1. Thomas **E**xplicit **C**onfession: *Thomas answered and said unto Him, My Lord and my God.* 20:28
2. Jesus’ **P**romise to others who will **E**xercise Faith in Him in **F**uture: 20:29, NKJV

*Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed.*

*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.*

*We stood not by the empty tomb, Where late Thy sacred body lay;*

*Nor sat within that upper room, Nor met Thee on the open way.*

 *But we believe that angels said, Why seek the living with the dead?* (x2)

 Anne R. Richter

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 900**

1. ***The Eighth Day* of the** **Week** was a very important day for Israel in the Old Testament as well as in the New Testament for the Church.

For Israel, *the eighth day* was the last day they were permitted to fulfil their vows in settling all their bills owed to God or to men –

*"Thou shalt not delay to offer the first of thy ripe fruits, and of thy liquors [juices]; the firstborn of thy sons shalt thou give to Me. Likewise shalt thou do with thine oxen, and with thy sheep; seven days it shall be with his dam; on* ***the eighth day*** *thou shalt give it Me"* (Exodus 22:29,30).

Israel was always to remember that the firstborn of her sons and animals belonged to God (cf. 13:2, 12). Sons were to be dedicated to God when they were eight days old and redemption money was to be paid (13:13).

Cf. Luke 2:21, 22 – *When* ***eight days*** *were accomplished for the circumcising of the Child, His name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before He was conceived in the womb.* *And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought Him to Jerusalem, to present Him to the Lord;*

**The Feast of Tabernacles** was observed for seven days. **The eighth day** was special –

**Leviticus 23:36 –** *Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on* ***the eighth day*** *shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: it is a solemn assembly; and ye shall do no servile work therein.* This **eighth day** typifies the kingdom age of national blessing that Israel will enjoy in the future.

**The Feast of Firstfruits** was to be observed on *the morrow after the sabbath*.

Lev. 23:10, 11 – *Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When ye be come into the land which I give unto you, and shall reap the harvest thereof, then ye shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest unto the priest: And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you:* ***on the morrow after the sabbath*** *the priest shall wave it.*

This would be **the eighth day**! The Feast of Firstfruits points to the resurrection of Christ, Who is the Firstfruits – *But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become* ***the Firstfruits*** *of them that slept.* (I Cor. 15:20)

Likewise, **the Feast of Pentecost** was to be observed as instructed: (Lev. 23:15, 16)

*And ye shall count unto you from* ***the morrow after the sabbath****, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete: Even unto* ***the morrow after the seventh sabbath*** *shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD.*

The Feast of Pentecost was fulfilled on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended on the Church at Jerusalem (as recorded in Acts 2:1) and gave birth to the Mystical Church *on the morrow after the seventh sabbath* which was **the first day of the week** or **the eighth day!**

In the New Testament, Jesus rose *in the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward* ***the first day of the week****…* (Mt. 28:1) and appeared to His disciples on **the eighth day** –

*After* ***eight days*** *again His disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.* (Jn. 20:26)

Thus, as envisaged in the Old Testament, there was a significant change of day from the sabbath day to **the morrow after the sabbath, the eighth day or the first day of the week** in celebrated events that typify Christ and the Church, and actually happened on the day prescribed in the New Testament. For the Church, there was no more sabbath observance. A new day had dawned! – the morrow after the sabbath, the eighth day, the first day of the week, the Lord’s Day.

May we joyously like Paul of old stay back to observe the breaking of bread, the Lord’s Supper on this special designated day of the Lord’s day – *Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread* (Acts 20:7) **REFLECT**

1. Today, the Church founded on the resurrection of Christ with the descent of the Holy Spirit to indwell us, need not have to keep the Sabbath anymore – (Col. 2:16, 17)

*Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon,* ***or of the sabbath days****:* *Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.*

Let this Lord’s Day, the first day of the week, be a special day of **R**everence as we **R**emember the Lord in His death, burial, **R**esurrection and **R**eturn for us. *Maranatha*. **REFLECT**

**POINTS TO PONDER:** *The Seventh Day has given* ***W****ay to the First Day of the* ***W****eek. Let us* ***R****ejoice for Jesus* ***R****ose again on that day*.