Questions on Mark chapter 16

1. When was the Sabbath past? Verse 1.

2. How do we reconcile Mark’s statement, “at the rising of the sun,” with John’s, “when it was yet dark”? Verse 2. (See John 20:1)

3. Why, do you think, were the women not concerned with the Roman guard and the sealing of the tomb rather than who would roll away the stone? Verse 3.

4. Who rolled away the stone? Verse 4. (See Matthew 28:2)

5. Why do Mark and Matthew mention only one angel while Luke mentions two? Verse 5. (See Luke 24:4)

6. What was the angel’s explanation for the absence of the body of Jesus? Verse 6.

7. Why, do you think, did the angel specifically ask them to remind Peter of the disciples’ appointment with Jesus in Galilee? Verse 7.

8. What was the reaction of the women and why such a reaction? Verse 8.

9. Some critics have questioned the authenticity of the last twelve verses of Mark chapter 16 (Mark 16:9-20). Do you think verse 8 would be an appropriate way to end Mark’s gospel? Verse 8.

10. To whom did Jesus first appear after His resurrection? Verse 9.

11. Is there anything here or anywhere else to indicate that Mary Magdalene was a reformed harlot, as some want to say? Verse 9.

12. At this point, why were these disciples mourning and weeping? Verse 10.

13. What was these disciples’ reaction when Mary told them she had seen the Lord alive? Verse 11.

14. Does Mark’s account imply that the two disciples realized Jesus’ identity without telling us how? Verse 13.

15. Did the disciples believe the story of the two disciples that Jesus appeared to them in another form? Verse 13.

16. Why, do you think, Jesus ate food when He appeared to them (evidently on the evening of the first day of the week)? Verse 14. (See Luke 24:36-43 and John 20:19-23)

17. Previously the disciples were not to tell any man that Jesus was the Christ - now they are to “preach the gospel to every creature.” What’s changed? Verse 15.

18. Why didn’t Jesus say, “he that believeth not *and is not baptized* shall be damned,” if He meant to make baptism a condition of salvation? Verse 16.

19. Do the signs mentioned follow “the body of believers”? Verses 17-18. (See Hebrews 2:1-4)

20. Why, do you think, do some attempt to reproduce some of these signs and not others? Verse 17-18.

21. Was Jesus’ commission beginning in verse 15 spoken on the evening of the resurrection or forty days later shortly before His ascension? Verse 19.

22. Did the disciples immediately begin to carry out the Lord’s commission? Verse 20.

23. How did people know they were authorized to carry out the Great Commission? Verse 20.

 Thought Question:

24. What, to you, is the most unique characteristic of Mark’s Gospel?