

# Luke 24:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

## Analysis

The women return: 'Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.' The timing: 'the first day of the week' (τῇ δὲ μιᾷ τῶν σαββάτων, *tē de mia tōn sabbatōn*), Sunday morning, 'very early' (ὄρθρου βαθέως, *orthrou batheōs*, at deep dawn). They brought 'spices which they had prepared' (ἃ ἤτοιμασαν ἀρώματα, *ha hētoimasan arōmata*) to anoint Jesus' body, a final act of devotion. They expected to find a corpse; instead they would find an empty tomb and living Lord. The 'first day of the week' becomes significant—Christians worship on Sunday rather than Saturday (Sabbath) because Jesus rose on the first day, inaugurating new creation.

## Historical Context

The women's journey to the tomb demonstrates they didn't expect resurrection despite Jesus' predictions. They came to anoint a dead body. Their surprise at the empty tomb (v. 3) and initial disbelief (v. 11) establish authenticity—if the story were fabricated, inventors would present disciples confidently expecting resurrection. Instead, the accounts show confusion, doubt, and gradual recognition. The women's initiative (coming at earliest opportunity) and devotion (bringing expensive spices) models faithful discipleship. God rewards their faithfulness by making them first witnesses to resurrection, history's most

important event. Sunday worship commemorates this day of resurrection, distinguishing Christianity from Judaism.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. Why is 'the first day of the week' significant for Christian worship?
2. What does the women's surprise at the empty tomb teach about resurrection expectations?
3. How does their faithful devotion despite not expecting resurrection model genuine discipleship?

## Interlinear Text

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τῇ	δὲ	μιᾷ	τῶν	σαββάτων	ὅρθρου	βαθέος
G3588	Now	G1520	G3588	day of the week	very early in the morning	G901
		G1161		G4521		G3722
ἦλθον	ἐπὶ	τὸ	μνῆμα	φέρουσαι	α	ήτοίμασαν
they came	unto	G3588	the sepulchre	bringing	which	they had prepared
G2064	G1909		G3418	G5342	G3739	G2090
ἀρώματα	καὶ	τινές	σύν	αύταις		
the spices	and	certain	others with	them		
G759	G2532	G5100	G4862	G846		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Luke 24:10** (Parallel theme): It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

**Mark 15:40** (Parallel theme): There were also women looking on afar off: among whom was Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the less and of Joses, and Salome;

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