

Luke 24:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;

Analysis

Certain women also of our company made us astonished (γυναῖκές τινες ἐξ ἡμῶν ἐξέστησαν ἡμᾶς, *gynaikes tines ex hēmōn exestēsan hēmas*)—The verb *existēmi* (astonished/amazed) literally means 'to stand outside oneself,' indicating overwhelming bewilderment rather than believing joy. Luke emphasizes the women's early arrival (**which were early at the sepulchre**, ὀρθρινὰ ἐπὶ τὸ μνημεῖον, *orthrinai epi to mnēmeion*), contrasting their faithfulness with male disciples' absence.

The phrase **of our company** (ἐξ ἡμῶν, *ex hēmōn*) acknowledges these women as full members of Jesus' disciple community—Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James (24:10). Yet the men's response was skeptical dismissal (v. 11: 'idle tales'). The women's testimony, though legally inadmissible in first-century courts, became the resurrection's first proclamation.

Historical Context

Women visiting tombs at dawn to complete burial rites was customary Jewish practice, as the Sabbath had prevented proper preparation. However, women's testimony carried no legal weight in Jewish or Roman courts. Luke's emphasis on female witnesses demonstrates the gospel's counter-cultural elevation of women and historical authenticity—no fabricated account would feature women as primary witnesses.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. Why did God choose women as the first resurrection witnesses despite cultural dismissal of their testimony?
2. How does the disciples' astonishment without belief reflect modern skepticism toward miracle claims?
3. What does the women's early morning devotion teach about prioritizing Christ?

Interlinear Text

ἀλλὰ	καὶ	γυναῖκες	τινες	ἐξ	ἡμῶν	ἐξέστησαν
Yea	also	women	and certain	of	our company	astonished
G235	G2532	G1135	G5100	G1537	G2257	G1839
ἡμᾶς	γενόμεναι	ὀρθριαὶ	ἐπὶ	τὸ	μνημεῖον	
us	which were	early	at	G3588	the sepulchre	
G2248	G1096	G3721	G1909		G3419	

From KJV Study • kjevstudy.org