

Luke 24:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

Analysis

The body missing: 'And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.' After seeing the stone removed, 'they entered in' (εἰσελθοῦσαι, eiselthousai) the tomb expecting to find Jesus' corpse. Instead: 'found not the body of the Lord Jesus' (οὐχ εὔρον τὸ σῶμα τοῦ κυρίου Ἰησοῦ, ouch heuron to sōma tou kyriou Iēsou). The simple statement conveys their shock. The use of 'Lord Jesus' (rather than just 'Jesus') reflects post-resurrection understanding of His divine lordship. Where was the body? It had been transformed and raised to immortal life. This wasn't resuscitation of a corpse but transformation to glorified, eternal existence. The missing body, unexplainable by natural means, confronted them with supernatural reality.

Historical Context

The women's discovery of the missing body is crucial testimony. They knew where Jesus was buried (23:55), came expecting to find His body, and instead found an empty tomb. If they had gone to the wrong tomb, authorities could easily have directed them to the correct one with the body. If someone had stolen it, who and why? Disciples were terrified and hiding. Roman guards prevented theft. Jewish authorities wanted the body to remain exactly where it was. No one had motive and means to steal it. The simplest explanation: Jesus rose from the dead exactly as He predicted. The missing body launched Christianity—apostolic preaching centered on resurrection (Acts 2:24-32, 3:15, 4:10, 1 Corinthians 15:1-8).

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. Why is the missing body such strong evidence for resurrection?
2. What alternative explanations fail to account for the empty tomb?
3. How does resurrection transform Jesus from dead teacher to living Lord?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	εἰσελθοῦσαι	οὐχ	εὔρον	τὸ	σῶμα	τοῦ	κυρίου
And	they entered in	not	and found	G3588	the body	G3588	of the Lord
G2532	G1525	G3756	G2147		G4983		G2962

Ἰησοῦ
Jesus
G2424

Additional Cross-References

Luke 24:23 (Parallel theme): And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.