

THE FIRST EASTER

MATTHEW 27:27-41; 28:1-8

Many people were angry with Jesus. They wanted to be rid of Him. The people hurt Jesus, made fun of Him, called Him names, and said hurtful things to Jesus.

The people made Jesus get on the cross. They said, "If You are God's Son, save Yourself."

But Jesus knew this was how the people would treat Him. And Jesus knew this was God's plan.

Later that day, Jesus died on the cross. His friends were sad. They did not know what to do.

But three days later, everyone was surprised. Early in the morning Jesus' friends Mary Magdalene and Mary went to the tomb where Jesus' body had been placed. When the women arrived at the garden where the tomb was, they saw something strange. The huge round stone that had been put in the door of the tomb had been rolled away!

Then Mary Magdalene and Mary saw a man near the tomb. The man was wearing bright clothes. The man was an angel.

"Don't be afraid," the angel said. "I know you are looking for Jesus. Come and look where His body was placed. Jesus is not here. He is alive! Now go and tell His disciples that Jesus is alive!"

The women remembered that Jesus had told them about these things. They hurried to find the disciples and tell them the good news.