INTRODUCTION:

Joseph of Arimathea was a wealthy and honored member of the Jewish Sanhedrin. He was a secret disciple (John 19:38). He cared enough about Jesus to ask for the body so he could give it a proper burial for the disciples that publicly followed Jesus fled. Joseph of Arimathea with Nicodemus carefully wrapped Jesus’ body in long strips of cloth, (John 19:39-40), pouring in at the same time a sticky resinous mixture of myrrh and aloes. Both spices are obtained from trees. Nicodemus contributed about 100lbs (John 19:39). The women then rested on the Sabbath (Saturday), according to the commandment, and returned to the tomb the following day, which would be Sunday.


24:1 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 first day of the week, very early in the morning Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women came to the tomb of Jesus expecting to anoint His body with the spices they had brought. The women strictly obeyed the observance of the Sabbath which caused them to do nothing to Jesus’ body after His death. Jesus was in the grave on the Sabbath. He was dead; therefore, the law and its observances had no authority over Him. However, the women came after the Sabbath, early in the morning.

24:2 And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. The women found the stone that had been sealed by the Roman guards was rolled away from the tomb. The stone had not been rolled back for the benefit of Jesus, but for the benefit of the witnesses to the resurrection. When Jesus arose, He was in His resurrected body, the heavenly body of the spiritual dimension, and the spiritual dimension has no physical bounds.

24:3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. The witnesses needed to enter the tomb and see the truth. And upon seeing the stone rolled away, they went in and found not the Lord’s body.

24:4 And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:— This was puzzling to them—not seeing Jesus’ body there. However, they did see two men arrayed in dazzling robes in or beside the tomb.

24:5 And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?— Seeing the two men caused the women to be afraid and they bowed their faces to the ground. The men were angelic beings saying unto them: "Why seek ye the living among the dead?"
24:6 He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,—The two angels were rally telling the women that Jesus is not dead. He has Risen and He is Alive! They had to bring back to their remembrance of what Jesus had spoken unto them when He was with them in Galilee.

24:7 Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. This was not something that was unexpected. Jesus specifically told them that He, "the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again." He was saying I have to die in order to rise. And that means to be raised to life!

24:8 And they remembered his words,—The angels proclaimed the glorious news which made them remember. It finally clicked with them and they remembered Jesus’ Words.

24:9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. The women told the 11 disciples what had occurred at the tomb and of the conversation with the angels.

24:10 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. This verse identified the women who were at the sepulcher, being witnesses of Jesus’ Resurrection and to tell the Good News to the disciples or apostles. The women are an example to us in taking care of our loved ones. They are God’s vessels to spread the glorious Gospel of Christ!

1. Mary Magdalene stands out as the most prominent of the women witnessing the resurrection of the Lord. Her love and devotion was very deep, for Jesus cast seven devils out of her Mk.16:9. In Matt.26:6 Mary displayed a special quality of devotion as she anointed Jesus by pouring an expensive ointment upon His head at a feast at Simon the leper’s home. To love the Lord with our best requires a revelation concerning Him.

2. Joanna was the wife of Chuza, Herod’s steward (Lk.8:3); (is believed to be the family whose dying son was healed by Jesus) (Jh.4:46).

3. Mary the mother of James. She also could not tear herself away from the body of Jesus indicating her love and devotion for her Son, Jesus (Matt.13:55; 27:56). Mary’s son, James, brother of Jesus was chosen as one of Jesus’ disciples.

These, and many other women who are not named in Scripture, all played a part in the ministry of Jesus Christ, and they each had been touched by his love and compassion.

24:11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not. Of course the men did not believe the women for it sounded like nonsense or idle tales to them. As if to say, this would happen and the men don’t know anything about it first? Well the disciples were always confused about the prophecy of Jesus’ death and resurrection. They would not accept His words literally at face value, so why believe the women!

II. PETER: INVESTIGATING THE TOMB LUKE 24:12

24:12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass. But Peter had to see for himself. He got up and ran to the tomb. As he peered into the tomb, he saw the linen clothes
that Joseph of Arimathea bought, and wrapped the Lord’s body in. He saw the clothes laid out in a place by itself, but there was no body. Jesus’ body was not there. The evidence tells it all, but he was still wondering within himself what had really happened.

III. THE DISCIPLES: MEETING THE RISEN SAVIOUR   LUKE 24:30-35

24:30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. This part of the scripture brings us to two of Jesus’ followers walking on the Road to Emmaus and they were describing the events of the day. Jesus joined them, but they did not know it was Him. But as they continued and the conversation was so good, they asked Jesus to tarry with them for the evening for a meal. Jesus acted as the host or the master of the house. This was no coincidence for Jesus, but they were startled. While Jesus was at the table for supper, He does the same in their home that He had been seen doing at the Last Supper or so many other times Jesus fed the hungry: He took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them.

24:31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. Perhaps they observed the "prints" in His hands as He gave them the bread or the peculiar way He broke the bread and gave it to them, or even in the blessing. It was something that triggered their eyes to be opened and know it was Jesus. And in a moment He was gone from their presence. He dare not eat because He had already said that "I won’t eat it again until what it represents has occurred in the kingdom of God" (Lk.22:16TLB). He gave them a chance to reflect upon what they had heard and seen.

24:32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?— "Did not our heart burn" or weren’t we filled with excitement and fire of the truth of God’s Word as He talked on the Road to Emmaus? Jesus opened the scriptures in such a way that made their hearts leap for joy to bring them out of sadness to exhilarating hope. The Word brought conviction within their hearts to now believe. That’s what the Word should do for all of us who believe. They came to know Jesus in a personal way. The two had heard the Scripture explained, and they had heard much. But they had to respond, to invite the Lord in to their home before God could open their eyes and bring them to a full knowledge of Christ.

24:33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,— They could not rest, having had the privilege of being a part of one of the most unique appearance of Christ’s resurrection experience. These two rose up within the same hour fastening back the seven or eight miles back to Jerusalem. They made their way to the Upper Room where they knew the eleven apostles and other followers would be gathered behind locked doors in fear of the Jews. The “eleven apostles” meant that Judas was now dead. This also shows that the two that were on the road of Emmaus were not apostles.

24:34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. The two followers were immediately greeted with these words: "The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon."  

1 http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/luke-lbw.htm
www.pitwm.net/pitwm-versebyverse.html
already knew that Jesus was alive. He had appeared to Peter. There are no details of this meeting. It was probably a painful but happy experience for Peter. Paul says that Jesus appeared especially to Peter (1 Corinthians 15:5). Simon Peter was the only one of the Eleven to whom Jesus appeared alone, before He was seen of the other apostles. Remember, Jesus had sent a special message to Peter via the angels and the women (Mk.16:7). Probably, to relieve Peter’s distress and fears, on account of Peter having so shamefully denied his Master.

24:35 And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread. The two from Emmaus now relate what had happened to them. They burst forth with the news of how Jesus had appeared unto them on the Road to Emmaus; and how they had recognized Jesus in the breaking of bread.

SUMMARY:

The women came to the sepulcher early the first day of the week to anoint the body of Jesus but found the stone had been rolled away and Jesus’ body gone. Being bothered by this, two angelic beings spoke to them and the women bowed with faces to the ground before them in fear. The angels reminded them of the words spoken by Jesus that on the third day He would arise. With this news they had to tell the apostles. The only one to search these tales out was Peter (24:1-11).

Peter got up and ran to the tomb and peered in. He saw the linen clothes that Joseph of Arimathea bought, and wrapped the Lord’s body in. They were laid out in a place by itself, but there was no body. The evidence tells it all, but he was still wondering within himself what had really happened (24:12).

Jesus meets and is seen by two followers on the Road to Emmaus. The two men didn’t even know it was Him. The conversation was so good that they asked Jesus to tarry with them for the evening. While Jesus was at the table for supper, He does the same in their home that He had been seen doing at the Last Supper or so many other times Jesus fed the hungry: He took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. But, as they continued and the conversation was so good, they asked Jesus to tarry with them for the evening for a meal. While Jesus was at the table for supper, He does the same in their home that He had been seen doing at the Last Supper or so many other times Jesus fed the hungry: He took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. It was something that triggered their eyes to be opened and know it was Jesus. And in a moment He was gone from their presence. Jesus opened the scriptures in such a way that made their hearts leap for joy. The Word brought conviction within their hearts to now believe. The two men rose up within the same hour hastening back the seven or eight miles back to Jerusalem. They made their way to the Upper Room where they knew the eleven apostles and other followers would be gathered behind locked doors in fear of the Jews. The disciples in Jerusalem already knew that Jesus was alive. He had appeared to Peter. Simon Peter was the only one of the Eleven to whom Jesus appeared alone, before He was seen of the other apostles. The two from Emmaus now relate what had happened to them. They burst forth with the news of how Jesus had appeared unto them on the Road to Emmaus; and how they had recognized Jesus in the breaking of bread (24:30-35).

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