

1Th 2:2-4...13; 2Pt 1:16

Ac 26:23-25

Preliminary considerations

- ✦ Discrepancies in details ***NOT necessarily invalidate the main issue.***
 - time of crucifixion
 - murder weapon
- ✦ Fact that all the accounts not read exactly the same, rather than prove them unreliable, ***show they were NOT written in collusion.***

But, DO the witnesses contradict one another?

If two statements that seem contradictory *can be explained by any rational hypothesis*, the discrepancy has not been established. Seeming contradictions may appear because speakers and writers *may omit details, which if known, would have explained the apparent discrepancy.*

I - WHEN women came to the tomb

Mt 28:1 “*as it began to dawn*”

Jn 20:1 “*while it was still dark*”

— VS —

Mk 16:2 “*when the sun had risen.*”

ANS: *left vs arrived* - NO contradiction!

2 - WHO went to the tomb

- Jn 20:1 = one woman
- Mt 28:1 = 2 women
- Mk 16:1 = 3 women
- Lk 24:10 = 3 women +

ANS:

- NONE say ONLY one/s—If ALL, all true!
- Jn 20:2 “we”
- “I went to the rodeo” - ONLY person?!
- Specifics do not exclude

3 - NUMBER OF ANGELS seen at tomb

- Mt (28:2,5) & Mk (16:5) mention one
- Lk (24:2) & Jn (20:12) mention two

ANS:

- NONE say ONLY one/s—If TWO, all true!
- “I saw Mary at the mall today” - ONLY person you saw?!

4 - CONDUCT of the women

- **Mt 28:7; Mk 16:7** told to go to dis. & report
 - **Lk 24:9,10** they did
- vs —
- **Mk 16:8** “said nothing to anyone”

ANS:

- to anyone BUT the disciples - Syn. of genus.
Cmpr **Mk 16:20; Jn 3:32.** - - -
Illus: Disneyland “What see?” “everything”
- WHO afraid of? (“for”) ...NOT disciples

5 - FIRST APPEARANCE to MALE disciples

- Mt 28:10,16 - mountain in Galilee
- Mk; Jn 20:19 - in Jer. on Sun after resurr.
- Lk 24:34; 1Co 15:5 - to Peter

ANS:

- NONE say “first” nor “only”!
- Illus: two people describe wreck...

6 - JERUSALEM or GALILEE?

- Mt 28:16; Jn 21:1 - meet in Galilee
— vs —
- Lk 24:33,36,49,52 - in Jer. & *remain* there

ANS:

- Lk 24:36-49 - v44f, *later* ... “Now...”
- Luke ≠ chronological
- Lk 24:50 ... Ac 1:3 - “forty days” ?!

7 - The “FORTY DAYS” of Ac 1:3 contradicts Lk. 24:36-53

ANS:

- **Ac 1:3f** - *additional* infor. & instruct.
- Luke AND Acts to Theophilus
- Illus: “discussed some things with corporate office” ... Later, mention this interaction (emails, phone) took place over several weeks...contradiction?!

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