

time, that's the way they'd be buried. I don't mean they 'd be thrown in a grave with others, but they'd just dig a hole and put them in it. And that was the, they'd just get rid of them, but they did not have the means for a tomb, but a rich man had a tomb hewn out of the rock, with a stone across the door, and then when the disciples say, that he is risen from the dead, you have the fact of the empty tomb. If you didn't have a tomb, you couldn't have an empty tomb. You go and say, look at here, this hole in the ground where these malefactors were, you go there and you can't find the body of Jesus with the rest of them. Well, it would be rather difficult, it wouldn't stand out as a proof, chances are, they wouldn't dig him up, to see if he was there and they wouldn't have any way to know about the resurrection, but here is a rock tomb going into the side of a hill, with a big stone moved up across the front, and they say who is going to roll aside the stone for us? And they find the stone already rolled away. It is the great evidence of Christianity, is the resurrection of Christ. That is the thing that changed a group of frightened despairing disciples who felt that all their hopes had been blasted, and everything had come to an end of all that they had thought was ahead for them, it changed them into a group of courageous men who could stand up and boldly face the leaders of the people, and say this Jesus whom ye crucified, God has made Lord and Christ, It was their great confidence in the fact of the resurrection and the resurrection is rather unthinkable, at least as far as evidence goes, aside from this unusual thought, that this man who was crucified as a malefactor, whose body instead of being treated like the body of a malefactor, the rich man came and asked Pilate to permit an exception to be made, to allow him to take and bury him in his own tomb. So you have the full fact of the tomb there, with a stone that could be rolled away in this way, and everything there to give evidence to the fact of his resurrection. Yes? (7 1/4)

...in Matthew 27 we read in verse 50, Jesus when he cried again with a loud voice yielded up the ghost, and behold the veil of the temple was rent in twain, from top to the bottom, and the earth did quake and the rocks rent and the graves were opened,