

"BIBLE CONTRADICTIONS???"

By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

Concerning the question pertaining to the number of angels at the tomb of Jesus (John 20:12; Mary saw two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been). Matthew 28:2 lists only one angel. Is this a contradiction?

First of all, one will find the four gospel writers giving some different observations of the various instances in the life of Jesus. These are not contradictions but - the Holy Spirit allowing them to use their own writing style and abilities to record from their viewpoint. An example for us might be as follows.

If you and I were involved in a Revival Meeting where a millionaire was baptized, we might tell everyone we saw a millionaire baptized at the revival. Now this would be true. However, there were also several other adults and three youth baptized as well.

What we would be doing was emphasizing the millionaire's baptism, since this happens so seldom. But, the Youth Minister at the church, who was hosting the Revival Meeting, might tell a different story. He might say that three youths were baptized and never mention the millionaire. Thus, his story would also be true, even though different. The reason of course was because he spent a great deal of time with the youth prior to their baptism.

Then, the next person who told their report of the Revival Meeting was a woman whose husband of over forty years and one who had drunk an ocean full of liquor surrendered to Jesus and was baptized. The only person who she reported on was her converted husband. She was walking on cloud #9 and we all know why.

May we never be found guilty of thinking that God's word has contradictions. There is always an explanation if one seeks to locate it. Hopefully, each of us is "into the Word regularly" so that we can understand the Bible more clearly.

KYOWVA Evangelistic Association

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