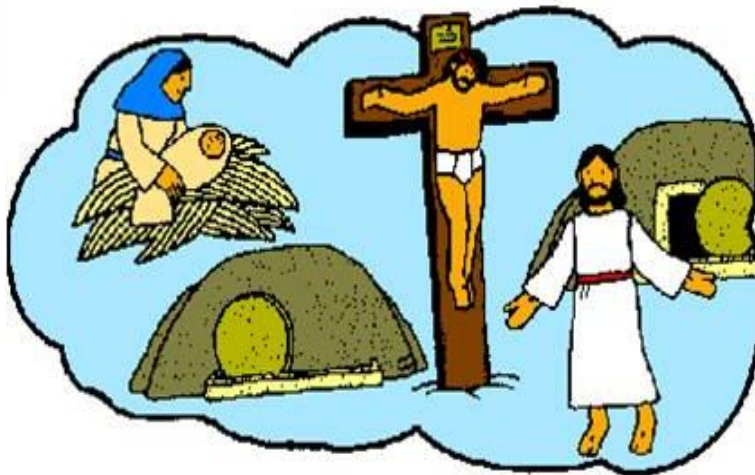


## NOT IN THE GRAVE



**While Jesus was hanging on that cross on the hill called Calvary just outside Jerusalem, He died. Jesus was not asleep or almost dead, He was dead.**

**When Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus lowered His body down and carried it to the tomb, there was no life left. When the women went to the tomb on the third day to prepare Jesus for His funeral, they just knew He would be lying in that grave, dead and cold. Everybody thought it was over. They all thought that was the end of Jesus.**

**What they all forgot is that before Jesus was even arrested, He told them He would come again. Jesus is God! He has power over everything! Even death! Though He died for our sin, death could not keep Him. Once the penalty had been paid, His Spirit returned to His body, and He simply got up and left the tomb behind.**

**Instead of a dead body, what the women found in the tomb was an angel who asked them why they were looking for Jesus among the dead, and then told them "He is risen". The angel also told the women to go tell Jesus' Disciples that He is alive, and would meet them in Galilee.**

(Bible Reference: Matthew 28:6-9 and John 20 and 21 )