

WHAT IF

What if Jesus hadn't "come forth"
From within that tiny room
That room so dark and cold and hopeless
The room they called a tomb

What if He had remained there
Unable to penetrate the wall
What if He had not arisen
Giving hope to us all

What if the linen
Had not been folded neatly upon the floor
What if the angel had not rolled
the stone away
Allowing access through an open door

What if Peter had not found the burial cloth
Beside the linen on the floor
No longer covering Jesus' body
As it did a few hours before

What if He still remained in that tomb
Think how different the world would be
Without any light or hope
Or promise of eternity

What if Jesus were still in there
Then the angel could not have said
The one you are looking for is not here
He is arisen instead

What if Jesus had not appeared to Mary
There in the garden
Calling her by name, reassuring her
Of His presence and her pardon

What if He had not called to her
Revealing Himself as "Teacher"
Too soon to be touched
Yet still willing to reach her

What if none of these events had taken
place
On Resurrection Day
Then there would be no Holy Spirit to
guide us
Or help us find our way

"What if" – only two words
Yet what a difference they make in what
we believe and in the conclusion at
which we arrive

What if we believe Jesus is still in the
tomb

What if we believe HE IS ALIVE!

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