

## 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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