

THE MESSAGE  
OF THE  
EMPTY TOMB

MATTHEW 28:1-8

## **Matthew 28:1-8**

**1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.**

**2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.**

**3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:**

**4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.**

## **Matthew 28:1-8 - continued**

**5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.**

**6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.**

**7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.**

**8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.**



# I. He Is Not Here

## A. Not what the world wanted to hear

### 1. In spite of their best efforts to hinder Christ

**Matthew 27:62-65**

**62 Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate,**

**63 Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again.**

**64 Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first.**

**65 Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can.**

# **I. He Is Not Here**

**A. Not what the world wanted to hear - continued**

**2. In spite of their best efforts to deny Christ**

**Matthew 28:11-14**

**11 Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done.**

**12 And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers,**

**13 Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him away while we slept.**

**14 And if this come to the governor's ears, we will persuade him, and secure you.**

# **I. He Is Not Here**

## **B. Not what the women expected**

**Did they not understand what Jesus had said?**

**John 2:19**

**Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**

**John 10:17-18**

**17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.**

**18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.**

## **II. For He Is Risen**

### **A. The source of our faith**

**1 Corinthians 15:14**

**And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.**

### **B. The source of our forgiveness**

**1 Corinthians 15:17**

**And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.**

### **C. The source of our power**

**Philippians 3:10**

**That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;**



## **II. For He Is Risen**

# **What We Need**

### **III. What God Wants**

#### **A. To accept His invitation**

**John 1:38-39**

**38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou?**

**39 He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.**

# **III. What God Wants**

## **B. To show you what He has done**

### **1. For you**

#### **Psalm 34:8**

**O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.**

### **2. So you can tell others**

#### **1 John 1:3**

**That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.**

### **III. What God Wants**

#### **C. To do what God wants**

#### **Romans 10:14-17**

**14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?**

**15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!**

**16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?**

**17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

## **Revelation 22:17**

**And the Spirit and the bride say, Come.  
And let him that heareth say, Come. And  
let him that is athirst come. And  
whosoever will, let him take the water of  
life freely.**

HEAR THE MESSAGE  
OF THE EMPTY TOMB