



HE IS RISEN!

That... Is GREAT News!

The Resurrection Is THE Turning Point

The Resurrection is what sets Christianity apart from all other religions

- Without the resurrection we are all wasting our time
- Attempting to refute the resurrection has been the undoing of a number of well known atheists turned Christian Scholars
 - CS Lewis, Josh McDowell, Lee Strobel
- Matt.28 gives a good overview

How Did It Happen?

- It happened on Sunday Morning**
- It happened just as the sun was coming up**
- A group of women were on their way to finish embalming Jesus body**
- On the way, they remembered the stone blocking the entrance**
- Suddenly, there was violent earthquake**

How Did It Happen?

Coming upon the scene of the tomb they were terrified.

- **The entrance stone was taken up and away from the opening of the tomb – Jn.20:1, Mark comments “..It was very large.”**
- **On the ground, looking dead, lay a troop of Roman soldiers sent to guard the tomb**
- **In the middle of the chaos, an Angel sat on the rock, smiling at them**

How Did It Happen?

- The Angel told them the good news**
 - Do not be afraid, He is not here, He has risen
 - This is just as He said it would happen
 - Come see. Go tell.
- **The women left, afraid, but joyful**
 - Their heads were full of fear
 - Their spirits were full of joy
- **They left to tell the disciples and Jesus met them – 28:9**

Meanwhile, Back At The Tomb

The guards were waking up, and seeing the empty tomb, were fearful for their lives

- A delegation of guards were sent to the chief priest to tell him what had happened 28:11**
- The guards were paid off with a large sum of money to say they had been negligent in their duties**

Meanwhile, Back In Town

**The women are having some trouble relating their story.
Lk.24:11 – They hear it as idle tales of women**

- The disciples are horrified to hear Jesus body has been moved. Jn.20:2-10**
- Peter and John start a foot race for the tomb. 20:4**
- On the way out they pass a very concerned looking group soldiers on their way into town**

Confusion and A Miracle

John, the younger of the two, won the footrace, but paused at the door and looked in v.5 – saw clearly

- Peter went straight in and considered what he saw**
- The clothes that had been around the body were lying there like an empty shell, and the face cloth was folded lying to one side – v.6-7**
- John comprehended and the light dawned and he believed a miracle had happened here v.8**

Appearances and Mission

Over the next hours, days and weeks over 500 people would eventually meet, talk and worship Jesus

- **The angels and Jesus told them to meet Him in Galilee**
- **There, He gave them the everyday Commission Mat.28:19**
 1. **Make Disciples – Followers**
 2. **Baptize them – Set them apart**
 3. **Teach them to obey – Lifestyle matters**
 4. **My presence, my authority and my power go with you**
 5. **I am with you**

Observations

- 1. 3 groups of people admitted the tomb was empty that morning.**
 - Those who were followers of Jesus
 - Those who were against Jesus
 - Those who paid to keep Him in there and failed to do so.
- 2. God did not send the Angel to open the tomb to let Jesus out, but to let the people in to see He was gone!**

Observations

- 3. God has an eternal purpose for your life.**
- The everyday commission is for everyone, everyday.**
- 4. God has not abandoned you. He promises to be with you.**