

Series: Countdown to the Cross

The Resurrection that Changed Mankind - Sunday Morning

Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

²*There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.*

³*His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow.*

⁴*The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.*

⁵*The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."*

⁸*So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."*

1. COME AND SEE . . .

v. 6 *"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. **Come and see the place where he lay.**"*

- The evidence of the empty tomb is an invitation to join God on a powerful journey.
- The resurrection of Jesus lets me see the proof of the power of God.
- Jesus' resurrection is the down payment of my own resurrection.

2. GO AND TELL . . .

v. 7 *"Then **go quickly and tell** his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."*

v. 10 *"Then Jesus said to them, 'do not be afraid. **Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.**"*

- The gospel message is all about "good news."

I. **Isaiah prophesied it would be preached.**

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. Isaiah. 61:1 (NIV)

II. **The angels announced it.**

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Luke 2:10 (NIV)

III. **Jesus preached it.**

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. Matthew 4:23 (NIV)

IV. **The early church preached it.**

Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to Antioch and began to speak to Greeks also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus. Acts 11:20 (NIV)

V. **Paul preached it.**

"Men, why are you doing this? We too are only men, human like you. We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made heaven and earth and sea and everything in them. Acts 14:15 (NIV)

- I cannot keep a secret which will save lives and mend hearts.
- Telling good news comes naturally and logically.
- What is the good news?

3. DO NOT BE AFRAID . . .

v. 5 *"The angel said to the women, '**Do not be afraid**, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.'"*

v. 10 *"Then Jesus said to them, 'do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'"*

- Fear is my greatest deterrent to obedience.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. Psalm 23:4 (NIV)

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear. . . I John 4:18 (NIV)

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. 2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJ)

- Fear places my focus in the wrong place.
- Jesus gives me strength to overcome fear in my life.

The power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ has the power to change lives even today. We are challenged to come and see what God has done and then go and tell others without fear.