

If anything proves the Kingship of Christ it is the resurrection!!

He is risen – He is risen indeed!

Review of the last week of Christ's earthly life in Matthew chapter 21-28

The Welcoming of the King – the Triumphant Entry

The Worshipping of the King – cleansing the Temple

The Word of the King – cursing the fig tree

The Warrant of the King -the transformation of Passover

The Woe of the King – His arrest, trials, beatings and burial

Matthew 21:1-11

Matthew 21:12-17

Matthew 21:18-27

Matthew 26:26-30

Matthew 27:1-66

Today the Win of the King

Matthew 28:1-15

I. A Powerful Manifestation

1-4

Love manifest

At sunrise on the first day of the week – for us Sunday

They came expecting Him to still be dead – but they came anyway in love

Angels and Earthquake

The stone was rolled away not to let Him out but to let them in

The brightness of God manifest – they waited for the women (sat on stone)

Alive Soldiers fainted

They were to guard the dead but they fainted dead *“The resurrection of Christ is a subject of terror to the servants of sin, and a subject of consolation to the sons of God; because it is a proof of the resurrection of both, the one to shame and everlasting contempt-the other to eternal glory and joy.” (Clarke)*

II. A Purposeful Message

5-7

Don't be afraid – soldiers fainted – but the women listened and heard

You are looking for Jesus – He could have said “you are looking for his dead body”

He isn't here, He is risen – Jesus was raised from the dead to a heavenly body – He is risen indeed!

Other who were brought back to life to their old earthly bodies –

Just as He said – Jesus had told them often but they did not hear –(selective hearing)

Matthew 16:21 From then on Jesus began to tell his disciples plainly that it was necessary for him to go to Jerusalem, and that he would suffer many terrible things at the hands of the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but on the third day he would be raised from the dead.

Matthew 17:23 He will be killed, but on the third day he will be raised from the dead.” And the disciples were filled with grief.

Matthew 20:18-19 “Listen,” he said, “we're going up to Jerusalem, where the Son of Man will be betrayed to the leading priests and the teachers of religious law. They will sentence him to die. Then they will hand him over to the Romans to be mocked, flogged with a whip, and crucified. But on the third day he will be raised from the dead.”

Matthew 26:31-32 On the way, Jesus told them, “Tonight all of you will desert me. For the Scriptures say, ‘God will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’ But after I have been raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there.

Come and see- God wanted eyewitnesses of the miracle (later Peter and John came)

Go quickly and tell – They became the “apostles” to the apostles – we are also sent to tell

III. A Personal Messenger

8-10

A quick obedience rewarded

-they were frightened but full of joy- they rushed to give the message

- as they went Himself met them

“Saints running in the way of obedience are likely to be met by Jesus. Some Christians travel to heaven so slowly that they are overtaken by follies or by faults, by slumber or by Satan; but he who is Christ's running footman shall meet his Master while he is speeding on his way.” (Spurgeon)

Sincere worship accepted

-they fell at His feet and worshipped – Jesus did not rebuke them for He is God, worthy of worship

Message repeated with a personal touch

-Jesus gave them the same instructions but with one addition of love

Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there."

-My brothers – He could have said “the cowardly deserters” or “my failures of disciples”

-See me – a promise that He would stay for a time with them (He stayed 40 days)

IV. A Pitiful Manipulation

11-15

Guards reported the truth

-To the priest and not Pilate for they feared for their lives

- It should have led to repentance and worship of Christ

Priest and elders contrived a lie

- Paid soldiers to lie, promised to cover up the truth

- A lie that no one would really believe

Soldiers all slept so sound that they would risk their lives?

Disciples took dead body and were willing to die for a lie?

The Facts of the Resurrection are clear – but what is the meaning?

1. God accepted the sacrifice of Christ for our sins

The Cross was the payment, the resurrection was the receipt proving God accepted the payment

We come to God through faith in the sacrifice of Christ – die to sin and are regenerated in faith

Romans 6:4 For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.

2. Christianity is centered on the resurrection of Christ

The early church had one message – Christ is risen from the dead. A message that makes Christianity different from all other religions. If Christ was not raised from the dead our faith is dead.

1 Corinthians 15:16-20 And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless, and you are still guilty of your sins. In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

3. We have a hope and a peace that the world can never take away

The truths of Matthew 28 are true today

1. If you look for Him, you will surely find Him (He is waiting and seeking you)

2. If you obey Him to spread the Word, He will join you (and never leave you)

3. If you truly see Him, you will fall before Him in worship (He is worthy)

but

4. If you deny the truth, He will allow you.

Seek Him today for He is risen indeed!!