

## Come, See . . . Go Tell

Matthew 28:1-10 Sunday AM, April 9, 2023

**Prelude – Behold the Man Scripture: Matthew 27:62-28:10** (NASB95) Now on the next day, the day after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, <sup>63</sup> and said, “Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I am to rise again.’” <sup>64</sup> “Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last deception will be worse than the first.” <sup>65</sup> Pilate said to them, “You have a guard; go, make it as secure as you know how.” <sup>66</sup> And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone. <sup>1</sup> Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. <sup>2</sup> And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. <sup>3</sup> And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. <sup>4</sup> The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. <sup>6</sup> ‘He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. <sup>7</sup> ‘Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you.” <sup>8</sup> And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples. <sup>9</sup> And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me.”

We left our time together on Friday with the finality of death. Death drains—not only from the one who dies, but from all around. It’s work to care for the dead body. It’s emotionally draining for all who care for the one who died. When do you eat, sleep? But note that Jesus’ death doesn’t stop the work for those who stood against Jesus and desired His death. Their minds race, they talk, they plan, then all the powerful among the Jewish religious leaders came to Pilate and said, “Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I am to rise again.’” <sup>64</sup> “Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead,’ and the last deception will be worse than the first.” Notice, in all their plans to extinguish Jesus’ influence, they give no thought that Jesus’ words of resurrection could ever be possible. Though dead, Jesus’ words still held power and caused them to continue their work to silence Him. But there was something strange about Jesus’ death. Yes, He died. But remember His final words? They contained more than just resignation and the finality of death. “Father, into Thy hands I commit my spirit.” For what? Life is over, Jesus. No, remember Jesus’ own words, <sup>17</sup> “For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. <sup>18</sup> “No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father.” John 10:17–18 (NASB95) This morning, we were reminded that Christians celebrate the resurrection because it proves there is something stronger than death AND even more importantly, that Christ’s words were trustworthy. This is exactly how the angels at the tomb calmed the fears of those who loved Jesus. <sup>5</sup> The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. <sup>6</sup> “He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Are you looking for Jesus? Then don’t be afraid. Listen to the WHOLE story! It includes darkness and death, but God’s story includes MORE! He has risen just as He said! He is the Living Christ, the Redeemer of those who would be redeemed!

**\*Hymn (Powerpoint): Jerusalem**

**\*Hymn (Powerpoint): Christ, He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed**

**\*Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Jahn Choir: Resurrection Song Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:1–18** (NASB95) Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart, <sup>2</sup> but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God. <sup>3</sup> And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, <sup>4</sup> in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. <sup>5</sup> For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord, and ourselves as your bond-servants for Jesus’ sake. <sup>6</sup> For God, who said, “Light shall shine out of darkness,” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. <sup>7</sup> But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; <sup>8</sup> we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; <sup>9</sup> persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup> always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. <sup>11</sup> For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup> So death works in us, but life in you. <sup>13</sup> But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE,” we also believe, therefore we also speak, <sup>14</sup> knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you. <sup>15</sup> For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God. <sup>16</sup> Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day. <sup>17</sup> For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup> while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

**Offering: \*Doxology:**

**You may be seated.** Where do you look for deliverance? Who or what gives you power to live? Your understanding, Your control, Someone who will listen to you? Do your problems define you, enabling you to feel alone and without hope because no one gets it and only hurts you worse? Pilate listened to those looking to silence the impact of Jesus words and empowered them. “You have a guard; go, make it as secure as you know how.” **What happened to that guard?** They shook with fear at the earthquake and the angels and became like dead men. **They’re done, rendered powerless by the power of God acting in line with His trustworthy word.** Is God’s word gospel—good news to you—showing the way from wrong, fear, and death, or does it bring fear and make you like dead men—or perhaps, have no effect at all? II Corinthians noted that **if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.** Where is your hope this resurrection morning? **For we do not preach ourselves but Christ Jesus as Lord.** This gospel changes our focus so that we are conscious of **“always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.”** What does this mean? It means that no matter how dark and hard it is to face all that opposes God in your own heart and in the world around you, you will still have have hope because of the power of God’s Word that created light out of nothing and brings light, life, and love to sin-twisted souls through a real relationship with the living Christ because you look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen—the things that are eternal. Praise the eternal God for all He has done to break the power of sin and death and bring sinners to Himself in a way that gives us something to live for and something to share with others. What has He done? Look for all that is praiseworthy and lifegiving in these songs, add them to what pastor opens in the sermon, then praise the Lord for them, live in light of them, and then tell others.

**\*Hymn #233: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus Stand**

**\*Hymn (Powerpoint): I Know That My Redeemer Lives**

**Message: Come, See . . . Go Tell Matthew 28:1-10**

**\*Hymn #220: He Lives \*Prayer**