



# CAPITOL COMMISSION™

## The Resurrection of King Jesus

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### Matthew 28:1-10

*“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. 2) 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 on it. 3) And his appearance was like lightning, and his garment as white as snow; 4) and the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. 5) And the angel answered and said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. 6) He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. 7) And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going before you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you.’ 8) And they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples. 9) And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshipped Him. 10) Then Jesus said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee and there they shall see Me.’”*  
(NASB)

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“A DEAD CHRIST MIGHT HAVE BEEN A TEACHER AND WONDER-WORKER, AND REMEMBERED AND LOVED AS SUCH. BUT ONLY A RISEN AND LIVING CHRIST COULD BE THE SAVIOR, THE LIFE, AND THE LIFE-GIVER—AND AS SUCH PREACHED TO ALL MEN. AND OF THIS MOST BLESSED TRUTH WE HAVE THE FULLEST AND MOST UNQUESTIONABLE EVIDENCE.” ALFRED EDERSHEIM

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Why does the Lord give women the opportunity to be the first witnesses of the resurrection? Had an earthquake occurred within many of the leaders’ lifetime which killed thousands of people? Did the hardened Roman guards actually faint? Were any of Jesus’ followers expecting His resurrection? Had Jesus called His disciples “brothers” prior to this announcement?

### FOCUS ON FUTURE BIBLE STUDIES:

- MAY 16-18: MATTHEW 28:11-15 *THE LEADERS’ LIE PROVING THE RESURRECTION*
- MAY 23-25: MATTHEW 28:16-20 *THE KING OF KINGS’ GREAT COMMISSION*

Matthew’s brief description is compressed and lacking even a hint of exaggeration. He does not argue but simply presents the facts. The truth of the Resurrection undergirds all truth regarding God: 1) It proves the Word of God to be true and reliable. Jesus rose from the dead, precisely as He had predicted (Mt. 12:40; 16:21; 17:9, 23; 20:19; 26:32), and just as it had been prophesied (Ps. 16:10; Ps. 22:16, 21-22ff; Is. 53:10, 12). Even the fact that He arose on third day was inferred by Rabbis from Gen. 42:17, Hos. 6:2.<sup>1</sup> 2) It proves that Jesus Christ is the Son of God just as He claimed, particularly in regard to His authority over death (Jn. 10:17-18). 3) It proves salvation is complete. Jesus paid the price of sin, death and hell and victoriously conquered them all in His resurrection. 4) It proves His continual intercession. He “*always lives to make intercession*” for believers (Heb. 7:25). 5) It proves that He has established His Church (Mt. 16:18). 6) It is proof of a future Judgment (Jn. 5:22, Phil. 2:10-11). 7) It proves heaven is being prepared for His own (Jn. 14:2).

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IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVE ANYTHING IN THIS WORLD, IF WE REFUSE TO BELIEVE THAT JESUS ROSE AGAIN. J. C. RYLE

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### BIBLE STUDIES

WEDNESDAY @ 7:00AM – BIBLE STUDY – FREDERICKSBURG – BOB EVANS ON RT. 3, 11:30AM – WOODBRIDGE – BOB EVANS AT NOBLEWOOD PLAZA  
 THURSDAY @ 7:30AM – BIBLE STUDY – RT. 10&301 SHONEY’S, NOON – WYTESTONE PLAZA – 8<sup>TH</sup> & MAIN – 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM  
 FRIDAY @ 7:00 AM – BIBLE STUDY – IN THE TIDEWATER AREA (CALL 804-683-2285 FOR SPECIFICS)

# Virginia

## The Resurrection of King Jesus

### I. THE KING'S WITNESSES MT. 28:1-4

The resurrection was literally “*after the Sabbaths*” (Friday-Passover & Saturday-Sabbath) “*at the dawning into the first day of the week.*” So it followed “*three days and three nights*” (Mt. 12:40). “*Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came*” bearing spices to anoint Jesus’ body (Lk. 24:1), with Salome, the wife of Zebedee and mother of James and John (Mk. 16:1), and Joanna along with other women (Lk. 24:10), very early in the morning (“*still dark*” Jn. 20:1), “*saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?’*” (Mk. 16:3). While on the way, literally an “*earthquake became great, for an angel of the Lord, descending out of heaven and approaching, rolled away the stone and was sitting upon it. And his appearance was as lightning, and his garment as white as snow.*” The battle hardened guards “*shook*” (same root as earthquake) and “*became like dead men.*” Mary Magdalene, ahead of the others, “*saw the stone already taken away from the tomb and so she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him’*” (Jn. 20:1-2). Thus, not only did the triune God perform and witness the resurrection, but at least eight of His own, the entire squadron of soldiers guarding the grave, and the entire population of Israel at the feast experiencing the earthquake, witnessed the power of His resurrection!

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**“AS A LAWYER I HAVE MADE A PROLONGED STUDY OF THE EVIDENCES FOR THE FIRST EASTER DAY. TO ME THE EVIDENCE IS CONCLUSIVE, AND OVER AND OVER AGAIN IN THE HIGH COURT I HAVE SECURED THE VERDICT ON EVIDENCE NOT NEARLY SO COMPELLING. AS A LAWYER I ACCEPT IT AS THE TESTIMONY OF MEN TO FACTS THAT THEY WERE ABLE TO SUBSTANTIATE.”**

**SIR EDWARD CLARK**

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### II. THE KING'S WORD MT. 28:5-8

The angel simply calms the women and verifies the Word of God. “*Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead.*” The reminder of what Jesus said and the verification of the empty tomb was sufficient evidence to require them to tell the truth to others! Then the angel reminded them of what Jesus had predicted just four nights prior, “*He is going before you into Galilee (Mt. 26:32), there you will see Him.*” Finally, the angel tells them to consider the source of their information, “*Behold, I have told you.*” Responding in obedience, these mothers of mature married men, “*departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples.*” Such rejoicing requires running!

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**“THE WOMEN'S FASCINATION MUST QUICKLY TURN TO PROCLAMATION. THEY DID NOT HAVE TIME TO REVEL IN THE MARVELOUS REALITY OF THE GOOD NEWS BUT WERE TO GO IMMEDIATELY AND ANNOUNCE IT TO THE COWERING DISCIPLES, WHO WERE STILL HIDING IN JERUSALEM.”**

**JOHN MACARTHUR**

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### III. THE KING WORSHIPPED MT. 28:9-10

They probably had not run that far when the fourth “*Behold*” of this passage abruptly introduced them to their risen Lord! His greeting and first word was “*Rejoice!*” Their first response was to seize His nail scarred feet and prostrate themselves before their King in worship as every individual will do one day (Phil. 2:10-11)! The greatest proof of the resurrection they held with their hands as He lovingly identified with His fearful disciples, called now His brothers! “*Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee and there they shall see Me.*”

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<sup>1</sup> Alfred Edersheim, *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1959), 631.

#### Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Considering all the testimony and the witnesses by God through His Word, angels and His people, what is your verdict?
- 2) Do you “*run*” to tell others the good news of Jesus Christ and His resurrection power or cower in disobedience?
- 3) Are you worshipping the King of the Universe who has invited you into His family through His resurrection?