

Another “gospel” Series
The Post Resurrection Witnesses

4.12.23

Galatians 1:6 I am amazed that you are so quickly turning away from him who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— ⁷ not that there is another gospel, but there are some who are troubling you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, a curse be on him!^[b] ⁹ As we have said before, I now say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, a curse be on him!

I Peter 3:15 but in your hearts regard^[a] Christ^[b] the Lord as holy, ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.

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1. Jesus is buried, as several women watch.

[Matthew 27:57-61](#) As evening approached, Joseph, a rich man from Arimathea who had become a follower of Jesus, **58** went to Pilate and asked for Jesus’ body. And Pilate issued an order to release it to him. **59** Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a long sheet of clean linen cloth. **60** He placed it in his own new tomb, which had been carved out of the rock. Then he rolled a great stone across the entrance and left. **61** Both Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting across from the tomb and watching.

2. The tomb is sealed, and a guard is set.

[Matthew 27:62-66](#) The next day, on the Sabbath,^{*} the leading priests and Pharisees went to see Pilate. **63** They told him, “Sir, we remember what that deceiver once said while he was still alive: ‘After three days I will rise from the dead.’ **64** So we request that you seal the tomb until the third day. This will prevent his disciples from coming and stealing his body and then telling

everyone he was raised from the dead! If that happens, we'll be worse off than we were at first."

65 Pilate replied, "Take guards and secure it the best you can." **66** So they sealed the tomb and posted guards to protect it.

3. At least 3 women, including Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, prepare spices to go to the tomb.

[Mark 16:1](#) Saturday evening, when the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus' body..

4. An angel descends from heaven, rolls the stone away, and sits on it. There is an earthquake, and the guard's faint.

[Matthew 28:2-4](#) Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. **3** His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. **4** The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint.).

5. The women arrive at the tomb and find it empty. Mary Magdalene leaves the other women there and runs to tell the disciples

[John 20:1-2](#) Early on Sunday morning, ^{*}while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. **2** She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

6. The women still at the tomb see two angels who tell them that Jesus is risen and who instruct them to tell the disciples to go to Galilee.

[Luke 24:1-8](#) But very early on Sunday morning*—the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. **2** They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. **3** So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. **4** As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes.

5 The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? **6** He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you back in Galilee, **7** that the Son of Man*—must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day."

8 Then they remembered that he had said this.

7. The women leave to bring the news to the disciples.

([Matthew 28:8](#) The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message.)

8. The guards, having roused themselves, report the empty tomb to the authorities, who bribe the guards to say the body was stolen.

[Matthew 28:11-15](#) As the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and told the leading priests what had happened. **12** A meeting with the elders was called, and they decided to give the soldiers a large bribe. **13** They told the soldiers, "You must say, 'Jesus' disciples came during the night while we were sleeping, and they stole his body.' **14** If the governor hears about it, we'll stand up for you so you won't get in trouble." **15** So the guards

accepted the bribe and said what they were told to say. Their story spread widely among the Jews, and they still tell it today.).

9. Mary the mother of James and the other women, on their way to find the disciples, see Jesus.

[Matthew 28:9-10](#) And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his feet, and worshiped him. **10** Then Jesus said to them, “**Don’t be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there.**”).

10. The women relate what they have seen and heard to the disciples.

[Luke 24:9-11](#) o they rushed back from the tomb to tell his eleven disciples—and everyone else—what had happened. **10** It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and several other women who told the apostles what had happened. **11** But the story sounded like nonsense to the men, so they didn’t believe it.).

11. Peter and John run to the tomb, see that it is empty, and find the grave clothes.

[John 20:2-10](#) **2** She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, “They have taken the Lord’s body out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

3 Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. **4** They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. **5** He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn’t go in. **6** Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, **7** while the cloth that had covered Jesus’ head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. **8** Then the disciple who had reached the

tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed—**9** for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead. **10** Then they went home.

12. Mary Magdalene returns to the tomb. She sees the angels, and then she sees Jesus ([John 20:11-18](#)). **11** Mary was standing outside the tomb crying, and as she wept, she stooped and looked in. **12** She saw two white-robed angels, one sitting at the head and the other at the foot of the place where the body of Jesus had been lying. **13** "Dear woman, why are you crying?" the angels asked her.

"Because they have taken away my Lord," she replied, "and I don't know where they have put him."

14 She turned to leave and saw someone standing there. It was Jesus, but she didn't recognize him. **15** "Dear woman, why are you crying?" Jesus asked her. "Who are you looking for?"

She thought he was the gardener. "Sir," she said, "if you have taken him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will go and get him."

16 "Mary!" Jesus said.

She turned to him and cried out, "Rabboni!" (which is Hebrew for "Teacher").

17 "Don't cling to me," Jesus said, "for I haven't yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

18 Mary Magdalene found the disciples and told them, "I have seen the Lord!" Then she gave them his message.

13. Later the same day, Jesus appears to Peter

[1 Corinthians 15:5](#) He was seen by Peter* and then by the Twelve.

14. Still on the same day, Jesus appears to [Cleopas](#) and another disciple on their way to Emmaus.

[Luke 24:13-32](#)). **13** That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles* from Jerusalem. **14** As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. **15** As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. **16** But God kept them from recognizing him.

17 He asked them, "What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?"

They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. **18** Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, "You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn't heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days."

19 "What things?" Jesus asked.

"The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth," they said. "He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. **20** But our leading priests and other religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. **21** We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.

22 "Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. **23** They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! **24** Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said."

25 Then Jesus said to

them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scrip

tures. **26** Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?" **27** Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

28 By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, **29** but they begged him, "Stay the night with us, since it is getting late." So he went home with them. **30** As they sat down to eat,*he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. **31** Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared!

32 They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?"

15. That evening, the two disciples report the event to the Eleven in Jerusalem

[Luke 24:32-35](#) **32** They said to each other, "Didn't our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?" **33** And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples and the others who had gathered with them, **34** who said, "The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter.*"

35 Then the two from Emmaus told their story of how Jesus had appeared to them as they were walking along the road, and how they had recognized him as he was breaking the bread.

16. Jesus appears to ten disciples—Thomas is missing.

[Luke 24:36-43](#) And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them. "Peace be with you," he said. **37** But the whole group was startled and frightened, thinking they were seeing a ghost!

38 “Why are you frightened?” he asked. “Why are your hearts filled with doubt? **39** Look at my hands. Look at my feet. You can see that it’s really me. Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost, because ghosts don’t have bodies, as you see that I do.” **40** As he spoke, he showed them his hands and his feet.

41 Still they stood there in disbelief, filled with joy and wonder. Then he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” **42** They gave him a piece of broiled fish, **43** and he ate it as they watched.

17. Jesus appears to all eleven disciples—Thomas included.

[John 20:26-31](#) **26** Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. **27** Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don’t be faithless any longer. Believe!”

28 “My Lord and my God!” Thomas exclaimed.

29 Then Jesus told him, “You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.”

18. Jesus appears to seven disciples by the Sea of Galilee

[John 21:1-25](#) Later, Jesus appeared again to the disciples beside the Sea of Galilee.*This is how it happened. **2** Several of the disciples were there—Simon Peter, Thomas (nicknamed the Twin),*Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples.

3 Simon Peter said, “I’m going fishing.”

“We’ll come, too,” they all said. So they went out in the boat, but they caught nothing all night.

4 At dawn Jesus was standing on the beach, but the disciples couldn’t see who he was. **5** He called out, “**Fellows,*** have you caught any fish?”

“No,” they replied.

6 Then he said, “**Throw out your net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you’ll get some!**” So they did, and they couldn’t haul in the net because there were so many fish in it.

19. Jesus appears to about 500 disciples in Galilee

[1 Corinthians 15:6](#) After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers*—at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.).

20. Jesus appears to His half-brother James.

[1 Corinthians 15:7](#) Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles.

21. Jesus commissions His disciples.

[Matthew 28:16-20](#) **16** Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. **17** When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted!

18 Jesus came and told his disciples, “**I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. 19 Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,* baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. 20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**”

22. Jesus teaches His disciples the Scriptures and promises to send the Holy Spirit.

[Acts 1:4-5](#) Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. **5** John baptized with*water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

23. Jesus ascends into heaven

[Acts 1:8-11](#)

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

9 After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him. **10** As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. **11** “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!”