

Three Days Later – Easter 2026 – Matthew 28:1-10

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

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

INTRO to **Matthew 28:1-10:** This morning is Easter Sunday, and we turn to Matthew’s account of the women finding the empty tomb and encountering Jesus risen from the dead. Later in Matthew 28 we have the “Great Commission.” This text has been called “The Great Discovery.”

I. “As the Dawn began...” (vs. 1)

-The morning after the Sabbath, which was Sunday, had arrived. Three days after Jesus had died on the cross, the faithful women who came to the tomb expected to find His body still there.

-Mark and Luke tell us the women were bringing spices to the tomb as a tribute for Jesus’ body since His burial had been done so hastily on Friday.

-What they found was unexpected by all, and yet the Scriptures had promised long ago that though the Christ would “be assigned a grave,” He would also “see the light of life”! (see **Isaiah 53:7-12** below)

II. “He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.” (vs. 2-7)

-The earth shook as an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and rolled the stone away from the tomb.

-When the guards saw the angel, his appearance was like “lightning.” They shook with fear and experienced paralysis like “dead men.”

-The angel said to the women: “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. (vs. 5-6)

-Jesus was no longer numbered among the dead, but instead is forever our living Savior. (see **Luke 24:5-8** below)

-The heart of the Christian faith—that we can have life to the fullest because Jesus Christ is alive! We believe not only that Christ lived, but that He lives—yesterday, today, and forever. Jesus is our risen Lord who has made the way for us to have life—though we were once dead in our sins and transgressions, we can be made fully alive in Him!

-In the ancient Hebrew world, the testimony of women was not received in law courts. Nonetheless, these two faithful women were given the task to “Go and tell” (vs. 7).

III. “Go and Tell” (vs. 8-10)

-As the women hurried away from the tomb and ran to meet the disciples, Matthew tells us they were afraid but also filled with joy.

-As they went, Jesus met them along the way. After they clasped His feet and worshiped them, Jesus commissioned them directly to “Go and tell.” (vs. 10)

-And by His authority, He has also commissioned us—we who follow Jesus today—to Go and Tell also: “Go, therefore and make disciples of all nations...” (**Matthew 28:19**)

REMEMBER: In Jesus Christ, we have a LIVING HOPE because **our Savior is alive!!!**

Other Scriptures Referenced:

Isaiah 53:7-12: *He was oppressed and afflicted
yet he did not open his mouth;
he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.*

*8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away.
Yet who of his generation protested?*

*For he was cut off from the land of the living;
for the transgression of my people he was punished.*

*9 He was assigned a grave with the wicked,
and with the rich in his death,
though he had done no violence,
nor was any deceit in his mouth.*

10 Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer,
and though the Lord makes his life an offering for sin,
he will see his offspring and prolong his days,
and the will of the Lord will prosper in his hand.

11 After he has suffered,
he will see the light of life and be satisfied;
by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many,
and he will bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will give him a portion among the great,
and he will divide the spoils with the strong,
because he poured out his life unto death,
and was numbered with the transgressors.
For he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Luke 24:5-8: *In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " 8 Then they remembered his words.*

Other Quotes/Resources:

-“If Jesus is not Lord of all, He is not Lord at all.” –Hudson Taylor