

LIVING WITHOUT FEAR BECAUSE OF THE RESURRECTION

MATTHEW 28:1-15

INTRODUCTION

1. Many people fear **DEATH**.
2. Many people fear **WASTING** their life.
 - a. The **DISCIPLES** were hiding in fear
 - b. The **RELIGIOUS LEADERS** were planning because of fear. (Mt. 27:62-66)
 - c. The **WOMEN** approached the tomb in fear. (Mt. 28:1-10)

**LIVING WITHOUT FEAR
BECAUSE OF THE
RESURRECTION**

I. YOU CAN LIVE WITHOUT FEAR BECAUSE...

A. THE SAVIOR IS ALIVE (vv.1-10)

- i. “for He has risen” (v.6)
- ii. If Jesus is still in the tomb, we have no hope. (1 Cor. 15:17-19)
- iii. Because Jesus is alive, we have a living hope. (1 Peter 1:3-5)

I. YOU CAN LIVE WITHOUT FEAR BECAUSE...

B. YOUR SINS CAN BE FORGIVEN (v.5)

- i. “..you seek Jesus who was crucified” (v.5)**
- ii. God’s love for you sent Jesus to the cross. (Romans 5:8)**
- iii. Jesus’ death on the cross paid your sin debt. (Hebrews 10:12-13)**

I. YOU CAN LIVE WITHOUT FEAR BECAUSE...

B. YOUR SINS CAN BE FORGIVEN (v.5)(CONTINUED)

- iv. Jesus' resurrection is evidence that his death was sufficient to pay for your sins. (Romans 4:25)**
- v. Salvation from sin is free gift received by faith. (Eph. 2:8, 9)**
- vi. Your faith must be in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. (1 Cor. 15:1-4)**

I. YOU CAN LIVE WITHOUT FEAR BECAUSE...

C. THE SCRIPTURES CAN BE TRUSTED (v.6)

- i. “as he said” – everything happened as Jesus said it would.**
- ii. “Jesus is either a liar, a lunatic, or He is Lord.” – C.S. Lewis**

FALSE THEORIES USED TO EXPLAIN AWAY THE RESURRECTION

THE WRONG TOMB THEORY

- **THE WOMEN AND DISCIPLES WERE SO GRIEF STRICKEN THAT THEY WENT TO THE WRONG TOMB, AN EMPTY TOMB, AND MISTAKENLY CONCLUDED THAT JESUS HAD RISEN FROM THE DEAD.**
- **PROBLEMS: RELIGIOUS LEADERS WOULD HAVE WENT TO THE CORRECT TOMB WHERE THE SOLDIERS WERE LOCATED AND PRODUCED THE BODY. THEY COULD ALSO LOCATE JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA WHO OWNED THE TOMB WHERE JESUS WAS BURIED.**

FALSE THEORIES USED TO EXPLAIN AWAY THE RESURRECTION

THE SWOON THEORY

- **JESUS DIDN'T ACTUALLY DIE ON THE CROSS. HE WENT INTO A DEATH-LIKE COMA, HE REVIVED WHEN LAID IN THE COOL TOMB, WALKED OUT.**
- **PROBLEMS: JESUS WAS BRUTALLY TORTURED, CRUCIFIED, STABBED IN THE SIDE, WRAPPED IN LINEN CLOTHS, SEALED IN A TOMB WITH A STONE WEIGHING ANYWHERE FROM 500-2000LBS. GUARDS WERE POSTED OUTSIDE THE TOMB.**

FALSE THEORIES USED TO EXPLAIN AWAY THE RESURRECTION

THE JESUS LEGEND THEORY

- **THE HISTORICAL JESUS AND THE BIBLICAL JESUS ARE NOT THE SAME. THE BIBLICAL JESUS IS A MYTH THAT GREW OVER TIME.**
- **PROBLEMS: LEGENDS TAKE TIME TO DEVELOP AND THE CHURCH GREW MASSIVELY AND QUICKLY FOLLOWING THE RESURRECTION; OVER 500 EYES WITNESSES COULD VERIFY THEY SAW JESUS; PAUL WAS A DEVOUT PHARISEE AND PERSECUTOR OF THE CHURCH WHO JUST MIRACULOUSLY CHANGED HIS MIND OVER NIGHT. IN THE GOSPEL ACCOUNTS WOMEN WERE USED AS WITNESSES WHICH WOULD NOT HAVE HELD UP IN THAT CULTURE.**

FALSE THEORIES USED TO EXPLAIN AWAY THE RESURRECTION

THE STOLEN BODY CONSPIRACY THEORY (V.11-15)

- **THE DISCIPLES STOLE THE BODY OF JESUS AND SAID HE ROSE FROM THE GRAVE.**
- **PROBLEMS: THE DISCIPLES HAD NOTHING TO GAIN EXCEPT TORTURE AND DEATH. WHY WOULD THEY SUFFER/DIE FOR A LIE? THE SOLDIERS WERE HIGHLY TRAINED AND TO LOSE THE BODY WAS A CAPITAL OFFENCE PUNISHABLE BY DEATH. OH...AND THE GUARDS WERE ASLEEP BUT SAW THE DISCIPLES STEAL THE BODY????**

II. HOW TO LIVE WITHOUT FEAR

A. LOOK AT THE EMPTY TOMB

- i. “Come and see” (v.6)
- ii. Jesus’ bodily resurrection guarantees your bodily resurrection. (1 Cor. 15:20-23)

II. HOW TO LIVE WITHOUT FEAR

B. WORSHIP THE RESURRECTED JESUS (v.8,9)

- i. Read God's Word
- ii. Gather with God's People
- iii. Listen to Christian Music

II. HOW TO LIVE WITHOUT FEAR

C. GO AND TELL OTHERS (v.7, 10)

- i. Face your fears by boldly sharing the Gospel with others.