

**“Jesus Is Risen”  
Matthew 28:1-15  
Easter Morning Services April 5, 2015**

**Why is the Resurrection so important for the Christian?**

**1 Corinthians 15:17**

**Resurrection** – “act of rising from the dead, to rise again, to live again.” Not in another body or spiritualizing, but a physical re-turning back to the body.

**The Resurrection is not a Religious View – It's a Fact of History! “The Church did not create the Resurrection, The Resurrection Created the Church!”**

**1. Verses 1-8 – The Empty Tomb**

**2. Verses 9-10 – The Resurrected Lord**

**3. Verses 11-15 – The Resurrection Cover-up**

**1. Verses 1-8 – The Empty Tomb:**

Matthew 28: 1

Matthew 27:66

“as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week,” – All 4 Gospels record the “first day of the week” – Acts 20: 7; 1 Cor. 16: 2.

“Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave.” – Luke 24: 10

**What is most amazing about the Resurrection story is that the very followers of Jesus were not expecting Jesus to rise from the dead!  
Matt. 16:21; 17:23; 20:19; 26:32**

Matthew 28: 2

“And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred,” – Earthquake at the Crucifixion: Sins were Paid in Full, Matthew 27:51. Earthquake at the Resurrection: Victory over Death.

Luke 24: 4

Mark 16: 3

Matthew 28: 3-5

“for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified.” – Now we have the witness of the angels of heaven that Jesus was crucified.

Jeremiah 29:13

Matthew 28:6

“He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said.” – Notice that these angels refer back to Jesus and His Words.

Galatians 1:8-9

“Come, see the place where He was lying.” – These women had to look for themselves!

Peter And John Had To Look For Themselves – John 20:4-8.

### **What does the empty tomb reveal? 8 Things:**

- 1. The Empty Tomb Proves That Jesus Christ Was God:** “Come, see the place where He was lying,” – Romans 1:3-4.
- 2. The Empty Tomb Verifies The Truth Of Scripture:** “Come, see the place where He was lying,” – Psalm 16:10; 110:1; Jonah.
- 3. The Empty Tomb Reveals The Horror Of Our Sin:** “Come, see the place where He was lying,” – 1 John 2:2.
- 4. The Empty Tomb is Proof Of A Future Judgment:** “Come, see the place where He was lying,” – Acts 17:31.
- 5. The Empty Tomb Makes Certain Our Future Resurrection:** “Come, see the place where He was lying,” – Romans 6:5.
- 6. The Empty Tomb Means Power For Christian Living:** “Come, see the place where He was lying,” – Romans 8:11.
- 7. The Empty Tomb Forces Us To See Our Own Mortality:** “Come, see the place where He was lying,” – Heb 9:27.
- 8. The Empty Tomb Means Jesus Has Conquered Death:** “Come, see the place where He was lying,” – 1 Corinthians 15:55.

Matthew 28: 7

“and behold, He is going before you into Galilee,” – Matthew 26: 32

Matthew 28: 8

## **2. Verses 9-10 – The Resurrected Lord:**

Matthew 28: 9

“greeted” – It is a word of Salutation: “Welcome friends, Glad to see you my friends”; It is a word of congratulations: “Rejoice”; It is a word of pacification; It means, “Peace be to you!”

Romans 5: 1

Matthew 28: 10

Acts 1: 3

## **3. Verses 11-15 – The Resurrection Cover-up:**

Matthew 28: 11

**Note: The guards that attempted to prevent the resurrection became the first witnesses of the resurrection!**

Matthew 28: 12

They could not believe because they would not believe! (Unbelief will not; Doubt can't put it together)

Matthew 28: 13

**If the guards were asleep, how would they know that it was the disciples that stole the body? Sometimes the truth is more reasonable than the theories seeking to contradict the truth.**

Matthew 28: 14

**Note that the resurrection was not denied but the attempt was to explain it away!**

Matthew 28: 15

Acts 2: 32

## **Application: 7 Facts About The Resurrection:**

1. Jesus Predicted His Resurrection: Matthew 16:21; Mark 9:9-10; John 2:18-22.
2. The Old Testament Foretold It: Psalm 16:10; Acts 2:25-31; 13:33-37.
3. The Tomb Was Empty And The Grave Clothes Vacant: If those who opposed Christ wished to silence His disciples, all they had to do was produce a body, but they could not (John 20:3-9).
4. Many People Saw The Resurrected Christ: They looked on His face, touched Him, heard His voice, and saw Him eat (Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:13-39; John 20:11-29; John 21:1-9; Acts 1:6-11; 1 Cor. 15:3-8).
5. The Lives Of The Disciples Were Transformed: Though they fled and even denied Christ at the time of His arrest, they later feared no one in their proclamation of the risen Christ (Matthew 26:56, 69-75).
6. The Resurrection Was The Central Message Of The Early Church: The church grew with an unwavering conviction that Christ had risen and was the Lord of the Church (Acts 4:33; 5:30-32; Romans 5:21).
7. Men And Women Today Testify That The Power Of The Risen Christ Has Transformed Their Lives: We know that Jesus is alive, not only because of the historical and Biblical evidence, but also because He has miraculously touched our lives.