

Resurrection: the Conspiracy & the Commission

Matthew 28:1-20; 1 Corinthians 15:12-27-32

- I. **THE EVENT** (1-10; 1 Cor 15:17-)—*Something happened in human history that changed everything*
- A. **The First Day**—the Christian day of worship
- B. **The Awesome Signs**—*reported by the soldiers; foreshadowing the Final Resurrection*
1. **The Earthquake** (Rev 6:12-17)—at Judgment, all tombs will be opened, all dead raised; the wicked will beg mountains and rocks to fall on them and hide them
 2. **The Angel** (Mat 13:40-42, 49-50; 24:31)—the angels will separate the righteous from the wicked, escort souls to their final destiny; terror to wicked but comfort to saints
- C. **The Women's Honor**—*Last at the cross, first at the tomb*
1. **Witnesses**—not considered credible in Jewish courts of the day but equal in church
 2. **Evangelists**—commissioned by the angel and Jesus to take the good news to the men
- II. **THE MEANING** —
- A. **The Reality of the Supernatural** (1 Cor 15:12)—miracle; Naturalism & Deism can't explain
- B. **The Vindication of Jesus Christ** (Acts 17:31; Rom 1:4)
1. **He is the Son of God**. (27:40-42; Acts 13:33-37)
 2. **He is Beloved of the Father**. (3:17; 4:3,6; 27:43)—God does delight in Him!
- C. **The Acceptance of His Atonement** (Acts 13:32-33; 1 Pet 1:3, 21& 3:18)—*it worked; we are forgiven*—free from guilt
- D. **His Victory over Death** (Jn 11:25; Acts 2:24; Rom 6:9, 8:11 & 14:9;)—*He will raise our bodies to eternal life*—free from curse
- E. **The Truth of His Teaching** (Jn 12:49-50)—*Everything He said is trustworthy and authoritative.*

III. **THE CONSPIRACY** (11-15)—the chief priests and elders

- A. **The Relentless Unbelief** (Lk 16:31; 2 Thes 10-11)—*preferred a lie*
- B. **The Expensive Bribe**—*paid to propagate their narrative*
- C. **The Official Story**—what the newspaper will report

IV. **THE COMMISSION** (16-20)—

A. **The Authority: The Divine Son of Man** (Dan 7:13-14)—“**Jesus is Lord**”

- 1. **They worshipped Him.** (Jn 20:28)
- 2. **All Authority has been given to Him.** (Phil 2:9-11)
 - a. **In Heaven**—in the realm of spirits
 - b. **On Earth**—in the realm of nature and mortals

B. **The Command**

- 1. **Go to All Nations** ()—
 - a. **Action**—Evangelism (bigger than official program or formula)
 - b. **Non-discrimination**—Universal Invitation
- 2. **Make Disciples**
 - a. **Baptize** (Conversion, Public Profession, The Trinity)
 - b. **Teach** (Discipleship, OBEDIANCE—practical holiness)

C. **The Promise** ()—*The Presence of Jesus; we are NEVER ALONE!*

V. **THE PERSPECTIVE** (Rom 8:31-39)— ***No Fear!***

- A. **For Death** (Mat 10:28; Jn 5:21-29 & 11:25-26; Rom 8:11; 1 Cor 6:14; Rev 1:18)
- B. **For Life** (Rom 8:31-39; Heb 13:6)
- C. **For Eternity** (Mk 10:30; Jn 11:25; 2 Cor 4:16-18; Tit 3:7)—*secure, eternal optimism*