

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 03 March 2013..... 1Timothy 1:1-20..... Follow Sound Doctrine
- 2) 10 March..... 1Timothy 2:1-15..... Please God in Worship
- 3) 17 March..... 1Timothy 3:1-4:16..... Honor God in Your Service
- 4) 24 March..... 1Timothy 5:1-6:2..... Care for Others
- 5) 31 March..... **Matthew 28:1-20..... Believe in the Risen Lord**
- 6) 07 April..... 1Timothy 6:3-21..... Pursue Spiritual Gifts
- 7) 14 April..... 2Timothy 1:1-18..... Be Loyal
- 8) 21 April..... 2Timothy 2:1-26..... Be Strong in God's Work
- 9) 28 April..... 2Timothy 3:1-17..... Be Guided by God's Word
- 10) 05 May..... 2Timothy 4:1-22..... Be Persistent to the End
- 11) 12 May..... Titus 1:1-16..... Look for Qualified Spiritual Leaders
- 12) 19 May..... Titus 2:1-15..... Look for Spiritual Excellence
- 13) 26 May..... Titus 3:1-15..... Look for Good Works

INTRODUCTION

- An earthquake, an angel, scared soldiers, visiting women, and an empty tomb were precursors to the Lord's disciples being commissioned to make disciples of all nations

Passage	Comments
Matthew 28:1-4	<p>Struck with Awe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v1. Female visitors to the tomb (cp Lk 24:10) included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Mary Magdalene – was healed of 7 demons and supported the Lord's work financially..... Luke 8:2-3 ♦ "the other Mary" – the wife of Cleophas/Alpheus, the mother of James the less (Junior) and Joseph. She was also the sister of Mary, the mother of Jesus cp Mt 27:56,61; 28:1; Mk 15:40,47; 16:1; Jn 19:25 ♦ Joanna, wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, who supported the Lord's work financially..... Lk 8:3; 24:10 ♦ Salome, the wife of Zebedee, the mother of James & John cp Mt 4:21; 20:20; 27:56; Mk 15:40; Lk 24:10 ♦ "Other women" – possibly Mary, Martha, Susanna • v2. The stone was rolled away to allow the women to walk in, not for Jesus to walk out
28:5-8	<p>Come and See</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An unnamed Angel is given the task to spook the guards (probably a Roman troop of seasoned veterans, <i>"who had been used to terrible sights in the field of battle; were men of courage, and fearless of danger; and yet were seized with a panic, and every limb of them shook and trembled at the sight of the angel, for fear he was come as an executioner of divine vengeance upon them"</i> John Gill Commentary) • The Angel also had the task of calming the fears of the women, giving them a guided tour of the empty tomb, and sending them on to the disciples
28:9-10	<p>Go and Tell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was the significance of Jesus making the effort to visibly appear to the women? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Maybe out of courtesy since the women made the effort to better prepare His body for a proper burial ♦ Maybe out of compassion since these women showed courage to approach a tomb during off hours and guarded by ruthless soldiers
28:11-15	<p>Beware of False Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v15. <i>"The soldiers took the money, and this story [of the body of Jesus was stolen by His disciples] was widely spread among the Jews, even to this day"</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Historical Note. JUSTIN MARTYR (AD 100–170) says, in his <i>Dialogue with Trypho the Jew</i>, that the Jews dispersed the story by means of special messengers sent to every country

Passage	Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The early church had to deal with numerous false reports and perceptions, such as the following <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christians were called cannibals as they ate flesh & drank blood at their communion service 2. Christians were often martyred as traitors (non-patriots) since they followed a different King • The church of today has other false reports and perceptions to battle <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Christians are intolerant of alternative lifestyles and all other religious and non-religious beliefs 2. Christians are hypocrites & fundamental militants
28:16-20	<p>Make Disciples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • v17. <i>"...but some were doubtful."</i> This was probably the mountain location where there was ample room for about 500 disciples to gather and witness the risen Lord, and there could be a few doubting Thomas' in such a large crowd 1Cor 15:6 • v19. <i>"Go therefore..."</i> or <i>"As you are going..."</i> • v19. <i>"...baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit"</i> – This was not meant to be a formula for water baptism, but a euphemism to immerse believers into the full knowledge of God, and His plan for mankind. As Paul said, "I have declared unto you the whole counsel of God" Acts 20:27 • v20. <i>"Teach them...everything...And remember, I am with you always..."</i> – God left us with a command to teach everyone everything about Him, with the promise He will be with us to help us accomplish this command

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- No fanfare – just the facts. Matthew gives us 27 chapters filled with pithy sayings and miracles, which confirmed the Messiah and His message, and then concludes with chapter 28 and a simple command to GO and TEACH same.

NEXT WEEK: **1 Timothy 6.** Paul provides Timothy with final thoughts on master/slave relationships, godliness, contentment, greed, fighting the good fight, and avoiding worldly entrapments

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



Jesus took a post-resurrection stroll and met the women and greeted them on the way. **Matthew 28:9**