

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 06 March.....1Thessalonians 1:1-10.....Commended
- 2) 13 March.....1Thessalonians 2:1-12.....Shared
- 3) 20 March.....1Thessalonians 2:13-20.....Response Required
- 4) 27 March.....1Thessalonians 3:1-13.....Encouraged
- 5) 03 April.....1Thessalonians 4:1-12.....Demonstrated
- 6) 10 April.....1Thessalonians 4:13-18.....Promised
- 7) 17 April.....**Matthew 28.....Risen**
- 8) 24 April.....1Thessalonians 5:1-11.....Returning
- 9) 01 May.....1Thessalonians 5:12-28.....Living
- 10) 08 May.....2Thessalonians 1:1-12.....Enduring
- 11) 15 May.....2Thessalonians 2:1-12.....Observing
- 12) 22 May.....2Thessalonians 2:13-17.....Praying
- 13) 29 May.....2Thessalonians 3:1-18.....Waiting

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.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, “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” 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. “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” <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. “...but some were doubtful.” 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 crowd1Cor 15:6 • v19. “Go therefore...” or “As you are going...” • v19. “...baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit” – 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. “Teach them...everything...And remember, I am with you always...” – 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 to confirm the Messiah and His message, and then concludes with chapter 28 and a simple command to GO and TEACH same.
- How well are we accomplishing this task of making disciples?
- Are we teaching the whole counsel of God or just easy, non-offensive stuff?
- **NEXT WEEK: 1Thes 5:1-11.** What and when is the DAY OF THE LORD? Is the DAY OF THE LORD the same as the Rapture?

The Back Pew – Jeff Larson



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