

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 05 March 2017..... Matthew 14-16 ..... Who is this Jesus?
- 2) 12 March..... Matthew 17-18 ..... Is Jesus Fully God?
- 3) 19 March..... Matthew 19-20 ..... What is Required?
- 4) 26 March..... Matthew 21:1-17 ..... More Than a Prophet?
- 5) 02 April..... Matthew 21:18-46..... What Happens If I Reject Jesus?
- 6) 09 April..... Matthew 22-23 ..... Offered to All?
- 7) 16 April..... Matthew 28a..... Where is Jesus?**
- 8) 23 April..... Matthew 24-25 ..... What About the Future?
- 9) 30 April..... Matthew 26a ..... How Do We Remember?
- 10) 07 May..... Matthew 26b ..... Do I Have the Strength?
- 11) 14 May..... Matthew 26c ..... Loyal to Whom?
- 12) 21 May..... Matthew 27 ..... Crucified for What?
- 13) 28 May..... Matthew 28b ..... What Do We Do Now?
- 14)

**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
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Maybe out of compassion</b> since these women showed courage to approach a tomb during off hours and guarded by ruthless soldiers</li> </ul>
28:11-15	<p><b>Beware of False Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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"</li> <li>♦ <b>Historical Note.</b> 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</li> <li>• The early church had to deal with numerous false reports and perceptions, such as the following:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Christians were called cannibals as they ate flesh &amp; drank blood at their communion service</li> <li>2. Christians were often martyred as traitors (non-patriots) since they followed a different King</li> </ol> </li> <li>• The church of today has other false reports and perceptions to battle             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Christians are intolerant of alternative lifestyles and all other religious and non-religious beliefs</li> <li>2. Christians are hypocrites &amp; fundamental militants</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

Passage	Comments		
Matthew 28:1-4	<p><b>Struck with Awe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v1. Female visitors to the tomb (cp Lk 24:10) included:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Mary Magdalene</b> – was healed of 7 demons and supported the Lord's work financially..... Luke 8:2-3</li> <li>♦ <b>"the other Mary"</b> – She was possibly the sister-in-law of Mary, the mother of Jesus -Gill's commentary. She was also the wife of Cleophas/Clopas/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</li> <li>♦ <b>Joanna</b>, wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, who supported the Lord's work financially..... Lk 8:3; 24:10</li> <li>♦ <b>Salome</b>, the wife of Zebedee, the mother of James &amp; John cp Mt 4:21; 20:20; 27:56; Mk 15:40; Lk 24:10</li> <li>♦ "Other women" – possibly Mary, Martha, Susanna</li> </ul> </li> <li>• v2. The stone was rolled away to allow the women to walk in, not for Jesus to walk out</li> <li>• When did the tomb visit actually occur?</li> </ul>		
Matthew 28	Mark 16	Luke 24	John 20
Mary M. & the other Mary came at dawn & saw 1 angel	Mary M., Salome & the other Mary came at sun up & saw 1 young man	Mary M., Joanna & the other Mary, & other women saw 2 men	Mary M. came when it was dark; she told Peter; and saw 2 angels
Can we trust the Bible?	<p>Authors who talked with different eye witnesses may capture unique perspectives of the same story. This gives contrasting views without being contradictory to the facts. This actually provides additional credibility to the Bible.</p>		
28:5-8	<p><b>Come and See</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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)</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>		
28:9-10	<p><b>Go and Tell</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What was the significance of Jesus making the effort to visibly appear to the women?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Maybe out of courtesy</b> since the women made the effort to better prepare His body for a proper burial</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS.**

- The Gospel of Matthew has no fanfare – just the facts.
- Matthew gives us 27 chapters filled with pithy sayings, miracles, and healings of multitudes (1,000's), which confirmed the Messiah and His message; and Matthew also includes how the church had to address false reports, outright lies, and rumors of all sorts.
- Is our struggle today any different? How should we address skepticism, false teachings, outright lies, and even miss behavior occurring inside and outside the church?
  - ♦ Our job is the same as the earliest of Christians – Be faithful to share the Scriptures and let the Holy Spirit change the hearts.

**NEXT WEEK: Matthew 24-25.** Jesus lays out the beginning of the end. He talks about the destruction of the Temple, His eminent return, and the end of the world as we know it.

**The Back Pew – Jeff Larson**



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