

# 3 REASONS THE RESURRECTION MATTERS

MATTHEW 28:1-8

DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS  
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2017

**INTRODUCTION:** Someone has said, “Christianity stands or falls on the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Disprove it and you have disposed of Christianity forever.” Why is an empty tomb the foundation of the Christian faith? Today we will explore three reasons the resurrection matters.

Matthew 28:1-8 “<sup>1</sup>Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. <sup>2</sup>And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. <sup>3</sup>And his appearance was like lightning, and his garment as white as snow; <sup>4</sup>and the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>And the angel answered and said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come see the place where He was lying. <sup>7</sup>And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going before you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you.’ <sup>8</sup>And they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples.”

## I. The Empty Tomb Proves That Christ Died For Our Sins

Matthew 16:21 “From that time Jesus Christ began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.”

Matthew 20:28 “just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Isaiah 59:1-2 “<sup>1</sup>Behold, the Lord’s hand is not so short that it cannot save; neither is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. <sup>2</sup>But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He does not hear.”

# 3 REASONS THE RESURRECTION MATTERS

DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS  
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2017

MATTHEW 28:1-8

Hebrews 9:11-12 “<sup>11</sup> But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; <sup>12</sup> and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.”

Matthew 27:51 “And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom, and the earth shook; and the rocks were split.”

Ephesians 2:18 “for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father.”

Romans 1:4 “who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,”

## II. The Empty Tomb Proves That Christ Conquered Death

John 2:18-22 “<sup>18</sup> The Jews therefore answered and said to Him, ‘What sign do You show to us, seeing that You do these things?’ <sup>19</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ <sup>20</sup> The Jews therefore said, ‘It took 46 years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?’ <sup>21</sup> But He was speaking of the temple of His body. <sup>22</sup> When therefore He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture, and the word which Jesus had spoken.”

Matthew 27:62-66 “<sup>62</sup> Now on the next day, which is the one after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, <sup>63</sup> and said ‘Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, “After three days I am to rise again.” <sup>64</sup> Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, lest the disciples come and steal Him away and say to the people, “He has risen from the dead,” and that the last deception will be worse than the first.’

<sup>65</sup> Pilate said to them, ‘You have a guard; go, make it as secure as you know how.’ <sup>66</sup> And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.”

### A. A Guard

### B. A Seal

# 3 REASONS THE RESURRECTION MATTERS

DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS  
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2017

MATTHEW 28:1-8

## III. The Empty Tomb Proves That Christ Will Deliver Us From Death

John 5:24 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”

John 6:40 “For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him, may have eternal life; and I Myself will raise him up on the last day.”

John 11:25 “...I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies,”

Conclusion