

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THEY HAVE TAKEN AWAY THE LORD OUT OF THE SEPULCHRE

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SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 8, 2018

SCRIPTURE READING: **JOHN 20:1-18**

John 20:2, Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, **They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre**, and we know not where they have laid him. **John 20:13**, And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

1. BACKGROUND

- a. Please refer to the April 1, 2018 Evening Message for the Background.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. This chapter deals with the resurrection as recorded by the Apostle John.
- b. The resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ lies at the very core of the Christian faith.
- c. **Without the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ we are all still dead in our sin. 1 Corinthians 15:13-14**, But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: **14**: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. **15**: Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. **16**: For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: **1 Corinthians 15:17**, And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.
- d. Thank God that Jesus is alive and sitting at the right hand of the Father today!
- e. We must deal with the fact that Christ died for our sins extensively in Scripture. **Romans 5:8**, But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.
- f. We must also deal with the fact of Jesus' resurrection. **1 Corinthians 15:4**, And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:
- g. It should not only be an Easter message, but from time to time we need to reflect on this so that the saints of God can be equipped and grounded in the faith of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.
- h. Beginning at Pentecost, we find as we study the messages of the Apostles, that the bodily resurrection was the theme of most of their messages. **Acts 17:18**, Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him. And

some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.

- i. We must take a cue from this and reflect on this all-important subject from time to time.
- j. Christ was crucified on Friday and the resurrection took place on the first day of the week, which is our Sunday which is the reason why we worship on Sunday and not on Saturday that is considered the Jewish Sabbath. We must remember that this is three days and three nights in accordance with the way the Jews reckon time. This is in accordance with the Jewish calendar and not the Roman calendar. According to the Jewish method; any portion of a day was considered a full day. **Luke 23:54-56**, *And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. 55: And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. 56: And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment. **John 19:42**, There laid they Jesus therefore because of the Jews' preparation day; for the sepulchre was nigh at hand. **John 20:1** tells us, *The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. **Matthew 28:1**, In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. **Mark 16:1**, And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.**
- k. This chapter not only presents the appearance of the Lord to Mary Magdalene but also the appearance of Jesus to the disciples, Thomas being absent who stated that he would not believe. **John 20:25**, *The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.*
- l. Eight days later Jesus appears to Thomas. **John 20:26-28**, *And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. 27: Then saith he to Thomas, reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. 28: And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. **Luke 24:39**, Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.*
- m. With that bit of an Introduction, let's look at the points to the message today.

3. TWO POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

a. They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre.

1. **John 20:2**, *Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.*
2. Followed by other women, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome start for the sepulchre, bringing spices.
3. When they had arrived, they found the stone was rolled away.
4. Mary Magdalene goes to tell the disciples. **Luke 23:55**, *And the women also,*

- which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And in **Luke 24:9**, *And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.*
5. Mary, the mother of James and Joses draw near to the tomb and see the angel. **Matthew 28:2**, *And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.*
 6. She goes back to meet the other women who were following with the spices.
 7. Peter and John are warned by Mary Magdalene; they arrived and looked in the sepulchre and went away. **John 20:3-10**, *Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. 4: So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. 5: And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. 6: Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7: And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8: Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. 9: For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. 10: Then the disciples went away again unto their own home*
 8. Mary Magdalene returns weeping, sees the two angels and then sees the Lord Jesus Christ. **John 20:11-13**, *But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre, 12: And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13: And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.*
 9. Mary goes to bear the news to the other disciples. **John 20:18**, *Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.*
 10. Mary the mother of James and Joses met the other women with the spices and returns with them; they also discover the two angels. **Luke 24:4-5**, *And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: 5: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? **Mark 16:5**, *And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.**
 11. They also receive the angelic message and go to seek the disciples and are met by Jesus Christ Himself. **Matthew 28:8-10**, *And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word. 9: And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. 10: Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.*

b. He shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs.

1. **Acts 1:3**, To whom also **he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs**, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:
2. First to Mary Magdalene. **John 20:14**, *And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.*
3. Next to the women returning from the tomb with the angelic message. **Matthew 28:8-10**, *And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word. 9: And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him. 10: Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.*
4. Then to Peter, possibly in the afternoon. **Luke 24:34**, *Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. 1 Corinthians 15:5*, *And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:*
5. To the Emmaus disciples, toward the evening. **Luke 24:13-16, 25-27, 31** *And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. 14: And they talked together of all these things which had happened. 15: And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. 16: But their eyes were holden that they should not know him. 25: Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27: And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. 31: And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.*
6. To the apostles, except Thomas. **John 20:19-20**, *Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. 20: And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord.*
7. Eight days after the resurrection He appeared to the apostles, Thomas being present at that time. **John 20:26-29**, *And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. 27: Then saith he to Thomas, reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. 28: And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. 29: Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.*
8. This was in Galilee, to the seven by the Sea of Tiberius. **John 21:1-2**, *After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberius; and on this wise shewed he himself. 2: There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.*
9. On the mountain, to the apostles and above five hundred brethren. **1**

- Corinthians 15:6**, After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.
10. At Jerusalem and Bethany again to James. **1 Corinthians 15:7**, After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.
 11. To the eleven. **Matthew 28:16-20**, Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. 17: And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. 18: And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Mark 16:14-20, Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen. Luke 24:33-53, And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, 34: Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.
 12. To Paul near Damascus. **Acts 9:3-6**, And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: 4: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? 5: And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks. 6: And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord said unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do. 1 Corinthians 15:8, And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time. Acts 9:27, But Barnabas took him, and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus.
 13. After His ascension in the temple to Paul. **Acts 22:17-21**, And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance; 18: And saw him saying unto me, Make haste, and get thee quickly out of Jerusalem: for they will not receive thy testimony concerning me. 19: And I said, Lord, they know that I imprisoned and beat in every synagogue them that believed on thee: 20: And when the blood of thy martyr Stephen was shed, I also was standing by, and consenting unto his death, and kept the raiment of them that slew him. 21: And he said unto me, Depart: for I will send thee far hence unto the Gentiles. Acts 23:11, And the night following the Lord stood by him, and said, Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.
 14. After His ascension to Stephen outside of Jerusalem. **Acts 7:55**, But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,
 15. After His ascension to John on the Isle of Patmos. **Revelation 1:10-19**, I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet, 11: Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, What thou seest, write in a book, and send it unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna, and unto Pergamos, and unto Thyatira, and unto Sardis, and unto Philadelphia, and unto Laodicea. 12: And I turned to

see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; **13:** And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. **14:** His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; **15:** And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters. **16:** And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength. **17:** And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last: **18:** I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death. **19:** Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

4. CONCLUSION

- a. **Romans 3:23**, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;
- b. **Romans 3:10**, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:
- c. **Romans 6:23**, For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- d. **Won't you come to Christ for salvation this very moment?**
- e. The Bible says in **Acts 4:12**, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.
- f. **Romans 10:9-10**, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **10:** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.
- f. **Halleluiah! What a Saviour we serve!!**
- g. Would you please stand?

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