



April 5, 2026

To the End of the Age

Matthew 28:1-10 and 16-20



1. Sermon Outline:

- a. Jesus Rose From the Dead In Power
 - i. Jesus was crucified, dead, and buried
 - ii. Jesus physically rose from the dead on the third day
- b. Jesus Sent His Followers Out In Power
 - i. The risen Jesus has all authority and power
 - ii. Jesus sent all generations of believers out to make disciples
- c. Jesus Is With Us In Power Until He Returns In Power
 - i. Jesus goes with His people as we go on His mission
 - ii. The Resurrection is the proof of Christ's power - power over death, power over sin, power over the world, power over the devil

2. *Sunday Afternoon* – As soon as possible after the sermon, consider:

- a. What stood out to you the most in this sermon?
- b. What new truth did you learn, or what truth were you reminded of?
- c. Is there a particular Scripture passage you feel God is leading you to meditate on or commit to memory?
- d. What is one thing God is leading you to do after hearing this message?
- e. Did God convict you of a need to make any changes in your life and walk with Him?

3. *Monday*:

- a. Today's focal passage begins with Matthew's description of Jesus' resurrection. Since this is the most significant event in all history, it is appropriate to begin by reading each of the four Gospel accounts:
 - i. Matthew 28:1-10
 - ii. Mark 16:1-8
 - iii. Luke 24:1-10
 - iv. John 20:1-8.
- b. Which account speaks to you most powerfully?
- c. What three elements are common to all four Gospels?
- d. Why do you think there are so many differences?

- e. While there are many suggestions concerning how to synchronize the events in the four Gospels, how does 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 help clarify the order of events?

4. *Tuesday:*

- a. As you meditate on the Resurrection, why should we view it as “the most significant event in all history?” Read these passages and summarize what they say to you about the significance of the Resurrection:
 - i. John 10:17-18
 - ii. Psalm 16:10 and 110:1
 - iii. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
 - iv. Acts 17:31
 - v. Hebrews 7:23-28
 - vi. Romans 6:4
 - vii. 1 Peter 1:3-5
- b. What important significance of the resurrection is given in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19?
 - i. What does Romans 10: 9-10 say is required of us concerning the resurrection if our sins are to be forgiven (we are to be saved)?
 - ii. What does it mean to “believe in your heart”? How does 1 Peter 1:8 explain it? What five-letter word is regularly used to describe “believing in your heart”?

5. *Wednesday:*

- a. Read and meditate on Matthew 28:1-7.
- b. Who are the main human characters in this narrative?
 - i. Based on Matthew 27:56 & 61, who do you think the “other Mary” would have been?
 - ii. Why would the two women have known exactly where to go to find Jesus’ body (see Matthew 27:59-61)? How does this fact discredit the “Wrong Tomb Theory” that suggests that, in their grief, the women went to the wrong tomb?
- c. Matthew alone tells us that an angel rolled away the stone, but the other three Gospels all report that the stone had been moved. Was it necessary that someone open the grave in order for him to leave the tomb (see John 10:17-18)? Why do you think the angel rolled back the stone – what did it allow to happen (see verse 6b)?
- d. Why do you think the soldiers were frightened into unconsciousness, but the women were not? What does that suggest about the angel’s command “Do not be afraid”?
- e. What four messages did the angel give to the women?
 - i. Which have direct application to us as Christians today?

- ii. In what way might the angel's last two commands ("come and see" in verse 6b and "Go and tell" in verse 7a) serve as an illustration of what it means to be a disciple of Christ?

6. **Thursday:**

- a. Read and meditate on Matthew 28:8-10.
- b. How did the women respond to the instructions they had received from the angel?
 - i. What was their emotional condition as they left the tomb?
 - ii. Why would the women have been fearful? Why would they have been filled with joy? How does their obedience, despite fear, serve as a model for us today when we have an opportunity to "go and tell" others of the resurrection and all that it provides?
 - iii. What, if anything, is significant about the fact that we are told the women ran?
- c. As you read verse 9, what impression do you get about the women meeting Jesus? Does it seem that Jesus had to tell them who He was? What might we conclude about His appearance based only on this limited information?
- d. What was the reaction of the women when they met Jesus? What did Jesus not do when the women worshipped Him (compare Matthew 4:9-10)? What does that confirm about His identity?
- e. Compare carefully what the angel told the women in verse 7 with what Jesus told them in verse 10.
 - i. What important difference is there between the two statements?
 - ii. Read Romans 8:29 and 8:14-17. How does our status compare to the disciples' new position as "brothers of Christ"? What made this possible?
- f. Read John 20:18-19. How did the disciples' response to Jesus' message differ from the women's response to the angel and Jesus?

7. **Friday:**

- a. Read and meditate on Matthew 28:16-20, then read Luke 24:47-49, John 21:21-23, and Acts 1:8.
- b. What does it say about the human condition that even after appearing to the disciples several times (Luke 24:36-43, John 20:19-25, Mark 16:14, John 20:26-31, and perhaps John 21:1-14) there were still some who doubted? What happened between the events in Jerusalem and the meeting with Jesus on the mountain in Galilee? What might this suggest about the importance of spending time with Jesus, in His Word, each day?
- c. How is the inclusiveness of the Great Commission demonstrated – what word is repeated?
 - i. What authority does Jesus not have? What part of the universe (creation) is excluded (See Hebrews 1:3 and Colossians 1:17)?

- ii. What nations are excluded from disciple-making (compare Romans 1:5)?
- iii. What part of Jesus' commands do not need to be taught? What does that suggest we who will do the teaching must accomplish first (see John 14:26, Acts 2:42, 2 Timothy 3:14-16)? Why are we to teach His commands (see Romans 8:29 and 2 Corinthians 3:18)?
- iv. When will Jesus no longer be with us (note "always" is literally "all the days")? How does this statement reflect His name introduced in Matthew 1:23?

8. **Saturday:**

- a. Read and meditate on the entire focal passage: Matthew 28:1-10 and 16-20.
- b. How do these verses affect the way you live as a Christian?
- c. How can the women's example help you when fear prevents you from doing as Christ commanded in the Great Commission?

9. **Application:**

- a. As much as modern Americans don't like to admit it, when Jesus says He has "All authority," He most definitely includes you and me. Paul's confession of what it means to be a Christian in Romans 10:9-13 begins with an acknowledgment of that authority: "If you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord'" There are at least three important implications. First, He reigns over us all supremely as sovereign, and therefore the question is not if He is Lord but "Will you submit before it is too late?" But secondly, even as our supreme ruler He loves us deeply (beyond our ability to comprehend). His death and resurrection prove that (see Galatians 2:20). The third, Christ's authority over us, means that He will judge us eternally as He says in John 5:21-23. All who believe in Christ will find that judgment to be good news because of the resurrection.
- b. For more than two thousand years, the Church has lived with the Great Commission, yet today there are well over three billion souls who have never heard the Good News of Jesus death and resurrection – and worse still have essentially no chance of hearing before they die. Perhaps it is time we took the Commission more seriously!

10. **Pray:** This week, after commemorating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, it is appropriate that we pray for the unreached in the land where Jesus lived, died, and rose again, Israel. Of the 49 people groups in Israel, 42 are still classified as Unreached, totaling over 9 million unreached souls. Even worse, 31 are Unengaged, meaning that less than 0.1% (1 in 1,000) are Christian, and there are no known self-sustaining churches among the people group. Pray particularly for these two groupings of people groups:

- a. The Jews: There are 13 different Jewish people groups (based primarily on their country of origin before moving to Israel). While a few (like the English-speaking Jews) have as many as 5% Christians, many others have none. Pray for these lost sheep.
- b. The Arabs: There are four main Arab people groups in Israel, with the Palestinian's being the largest by far. Pray that despite war and repression, Arabs may hear and accept the Good News of Jesus the Christ.