

The Resurrection

Matthew 28

by Don Falkos

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After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to the tomb. There was a violent earthquake. An angel of the Lord had come down from heaven, gone to the tomb, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. The guards were terrified and fell into a dead faint.

The angel said to the women, "Don't be afraid. You are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen, just as he said. Now go and tell his disciples, 'Jesus has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there.' "

The women ran away from the tomb, frightened and joyful at the same time. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings!" They fell to the ground, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Jesus said, "Don't be afraid! Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee. They will see me there."

The guards went into the city to the chief priests and reported everything that had happened. They were given a large bribe and told to say, "His disciples came during the night and stole his body while we were sleeping." The guards took the money and did as instructed.

The remaining eleven apostles went to Galilee. When they saw Jesus, they worshiped him; but some of them had doubts. Jesus told them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. You must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And know this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."