

“Being Evidence of the Resurrection”

Matthew 28:1-10

Tuesday Bible Lunch

March 27, 2018

Introduction: The Biblical evidence of the resurrection is extensive. Each of the four gospels records the resurrection of Jesus (Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-9; John 20: 1-10). In addition, the apostle Paul wrote about the resurrection of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15).

Is there evidence of the resurrection other than the Bible? Yes, there is. Jesus' followers, you and me, are part of the evidence of the resurrection.

- For those who do not read the Bible, we (believers) are the only evidence.
- For those who doubt the Bible, we (believers) are the best evidence.

Three imperatives in our Scripture today tell how Christians can be evidence of the resurrection.

Text: Matthew 28:1-10

1. To be evidence of the resurrection, you must believe (28:6).

- “Come, see the place where the Lord lay” (Matthew 28:6).
- The angel encouraged them to believe.
- To “believe” is evidence #1.

Application: You are the best evidence of the resurrection when you believe God when it would be only human not to believe God. Believing when something does not make sense or does not seem like what should happen is hard to do.

Illustration: John Wesley had a dread and fear of the sea, yet on October 15, 1735 he sailed from England to Savannah, Georgia to convert the North American

Indians. As his ship approached the American coast, they encountered violent storms for two weeks. Fear gripped his soul. He observed a group of twenty-six German passengers on the ship that did not seem frightened by the storm. They were Moravians, a pious German sect, who were missionaries also coming to America. They were calm. They sang hymns. They became evidence to Wesley that would later help him with personal storms that would come to him and ultimately help him settle his own salvation.

2. To be evidence of the resurrection, you can share Christ.

- The angel said, “Go and tell” (28:7).
- The angel wanted them to simply go and tell what they had experienced.

Application: You can be powerful evidence by simply telling what you have experienced in your faith journey.

Illustration: Share answered prayers. Share how a Bible verse or Bible lesson has given you comfort and help.

3. To be evidence of the resurrection, you can rejoice.

- When Jesus met the women on their way to tell the disciples, He told them to rejoice.
- “As they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying rejoice!” (28:9).

Illustration: Paul and Silas gave great evidence of the power of the resurrection in the Philippian jail (Acts 16:25).

Illustration: A joyless Christian is an oxymoron.

Application: When the joy of the Lord is in your life, you are great evidence of the resurrection.

Conclusion: People read people. In Acts chapter 26, we read the account of Paul telling King Agrippa about his conversion experience. King Agrippa listened to Paul and responded, “You almost persuade me to become a Christian” (Acts 26:28). King Agrippa “read” Paul.

People read you and me each day. What are they reading? It may be the only evidence they will ever have to persuade them to become a Christian.