

Sermon Date: March 27, 2016

Pastor: Dan Wilvers

Sierra's Weekly Message Action Plan



Sierra's Weekly Action Plan:

Use the Message Action Plan below to help put the things you learned this weekend into practice. If you missed last weekend's message, [Click Here](#) to listen to it online.

“The Resurrection Did It Really Happen?”

The Road to the Resurrection

Dan Wilvers-March 26th,27th, 2016

⁵ The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Matthew 28:5,6

Clearly the truth of the preceding passage is the one true hope that all Christians cling to, and therefore the single most important event in all of human history. Christ Risen!

The message Sunday was actually simple; we asked and answered two questions.

I. Did it really happen?

II. What does it mean?

To the first answer was:

1. The evidence of the women eyewitnesses

“So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples.” ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Matthew 28:8,9

Now what does that mean?

It means in a very male dominated world where the testimony of women wasn't even legal, the only possible motivation you would have for writing an account of the resurrection of Christ and saying women were the first eyewitnesses is if it actually happened that way.

2. The documenting of doubting eyewitnesses.

“Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; **but some doubted.**” Matthew 28:16,17

What kind of evidence would you need to overcome your doubts?

How strong would the evidence have to be to blow away all of your doubts completely?

They would have to be pretty strong, right?

And my point is their doubts were as strong as our doubts; therefore, they must have received that kind of evidence, because after first doubting they all believed.

3. Their lives were changed by what they saw.

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore **go and make disciples of all nations ...**” Matthew 28:20

Did you ever consider what Jesus was asking of them?

“You eleven uneducated fishermen from a backwater Judea, get out there and change the world.”

Over the next forty years they did just that. Starting right there in Jerusalem, then Samaria, they headed out to the ends of the Roman Empire and did exactly that—they changed the world.

The video also documented the **extraordinary growth of the church upon the ancient world**, and the **two great skeptics**; James- Jesus brother by Mary and Joseph, and Saul of Tarsus, who became the Apostle Paul. Both men did a U-turn, and became prolific leaders of the early Christian church.

II. What does the resurrection mean to us?

We took our cues from the scripture at the end of Matthew 28

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

...”And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 28:18,20b

1. Jesus is in control of all history and outcomes

This means in the good and the bad we can trust He is working out His plan and purpose.

“All things work together for good to those who love God.” Romans 8:28

Action Plan: Trust Christ in everything because He is in charge going forward.

2. Jesus is with us in the Scriptures and the Gospel

20 Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.” Matthew 28:18-20a

Action Plan: Trust God’s Word to direct you and to guide you through life.

3. Jesus is with us in Christian Community

... “surely I am with **you** always”... Matthew 28:20

The “you” here is actually a “you all”

Action Plan: We trust Christ with all our outcomes; we trust His Word; and we build on those two principles together in a Christian community of faith.

4. Jesus is with us to the End of Life’s Struggles

...to the very end of the age...

Jesus: Don’t get lost in despair; believe in God, and keep on believing in Me. 2 My Father’s home is designed to accommodate all of you. If there were not room for everyone, I would have told you that. I am going to make arrangements for your arrival. 3 I will be there to greet you personally and welcome you home, where we will be together. John 14:1-3

What that means is that at the end of history he will be there, because he has risen from the dead. That means in the end, everything is going to be made right.

Action Plan: Let hope carry you through every season and battle of life.