

The Impact of Christ's Resurrection

“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. 2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. 3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? 4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. 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. 6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. 7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. 8 And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid. 9 Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils. 10 And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept. 11 And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not. 12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country. 13 And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them. 14 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. 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. 19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. 20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.” (Mark 16:1-20 KJV)

“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.” (Mark 16:1 KJV) Here the women did not move to the tomb before the end of the Sabbath rest for they were observing the law of God. We need to work 6 days and rest on the seventh day as God commanded us in His Word that is also good to us to have rest and to give rest to the people who are with us. Which time they bought the spices? Most likely before the Sabbath started on the evening of Friday, or after the end of the Sabbath on the evening of Saturday. What for the spices? To anoint the body of Jesus, which was also anointed by spices that Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus brought to anoint as we read in ***John 19:38-40*** ***“38 And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight. 40 Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the***

manner of the Jews is to bury.” That was the tradition of the Jewish so the bad smell will not come out from the grave. The women came to anoint the grave where Jesus was placed in because the body was already anointed. They came to pile up more of sweet odor incense and spices on it to over the bad smell of the decayed body. They were willing to come to the Lord with good intention and willingness to spend and to do the needful as much as they can understand. We are aware that such is not needed for us to do, but the principle behind all that, to honour God in our lives that should be the motto for us to live. We are also here learn not to promote body cremation, for we learn from the Scripture, that dead bodies need to be buried and not to be burned, that especially will become a serious matter when we come to know that the Scriptures inform us that certain wicked people their bones were burned.

“2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.” (Mark 16:2 KJV) They woke up very early to come to Christ and to honour Him. Now a day people are willing to wake up to go to picnic, to go for exam, to go for work and for business, but when you say come to God, they will say, let us sleep, this is the only day we have to rest. They made a plan that at the rising of the sun they would be at the sepulcher of Jesus. Coming to the Lord will be honoured and rewarded by God.

“3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?” (Mark 16:3 KJV) The problem they were facing was who will roll away the huge stone from the door of the sepulcher. They saw Joseph moving it toward its entrance, so now they are burden who will help them to overcome this obstacle. Obstacles in life will come but as long as we diligently move toward the Lord, He will make a way and solve them, as we are aware in regard to this situation that God sent His angel and rolled away the stone as we read in ***Matthew 28:1-2*** ***“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. 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.”*** Now other obstacles that were there but did not come to their mind to think about are the seal and the guards at the entrance because that fixed later on in their absence as we read in ***Matthew 27:62-66*** ***“62 Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, 63 Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. 64 Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. 65 Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make it as sure as ye can. 66 So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.”***, that is they were not aware of such obstacles because after they left that had happened, but God as well remove them. What I want to say here when we put our hope on God, trust Him, and do all what we can to serve Him, He will be the one to deal with many obstacles and handle them and He will not bother us with such obstacles.

“4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.” (Mark 16:4 KJV) The women when they were looking forward to meet Jesus, their problem disappear, and the stone was rolled away. The stone was huge and possibly Joseph with the help of other men they place it at the entrance of the sepulcher, We in the same way, when we put Christ as our priority, troubles and hardship will disappear all of a sudden in our lives.

“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.” (Mark 16:5 KJV) Now they entered the sepulcher for the sepulcher at that time was big as a room, and there they met the angel of the Lord, who was sitting on the right side and clothed in a long white garment, and that caused them to be frightened, ***“6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.” (Mark 16:6 KJV)*** The angel assured them not to be frightened, to be calm, and He announced to them the good news that they were not aware of the impact of Christ’s resurrection. In the same way today, be calm and assured that God is in full control. He told them that Christ resurrected from the death, and He is no more in the place that He was laid.

“7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.” (Mark 16:7 KJV) He commissioned them to go and informed His disciples and Peter about that, and that He, Jesus, would go ahead of them to Galilee to meet them there as He promised them. Why to meet them in Galilee? Most likely because many of His disciples and His ministry were in Galilee and that was the place that they were living. So to meet them there is to announce His resurrection to larger number of His disciples to restore hope to them in the resurrected Christ, that as He was resurrected they and we will be resurrected from death as was our Lord Jesus Christ. Also Galilee, because his disciples were in Jerusalem for the Passover feast and they will go back to their homes in Galilee, so that is why He will be meeting them there. Why He mentioned Peter’s name here separately? Not because Peter is their leader, but because Peter, being the leader, denied the Lord and he might be now ashamed and afraid to come to the Lord because of what he did. With such a message, God is reaching out Peter and He is telling him and to each and to everyone of us who deny Christ and left Him for his own interest and non willingness to suffer, to come back to Christ and serve Him. As if Jesus is telling to Peter and to you who left Christ, *‘even you betrayed me, spoke bad about me, you denied me, but I still love you and wants you to repent and come back to me and serve me.’*

“8 And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.” (Mark 16:8 KJV) The situation that they were put in those women is something strange, amazing; good news are there, but the strange experience imparted fear to them, and that is why they did fled and went with fear, not saying at the beginning anything to any man. The early manuscript of Mark was ended here. It means it is up to you to go along Christ and the excitable life that He prepared for you, or just keep silent and the resurrected Christ is just a mere day in your calendar to celebrate and that is all ended here. But as we choose to continue our journey with Christ and go along with Him into the things that He wants from us, let us meditate further on the Scriptures to receive further hope and grace of God into our life here on earth and later on in heaven.

“9 Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.” (Mark 16:9 KJV) Mary Magdalene interacted further with what had happened and with what she received from good news

and from deliverance from the Lord and decided to go and to do what she was commissioned to do. She is the one whom Jesus appeared to her as the gardener as we can read in *John 20:14-18* ***“14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. 16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. 17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the LORD, and that he had spoken these things unto her.”***

“10 And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.” (Mark 16:10 KJV) She responded to the call of God and went to inform the disciples who were mourning and weeping for their dead Lord and announced to them that He rose from the dead.

“11 And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.” (Mark 16:11 KJV) They did not believe what she said that He was alive. Either despising the woman or to justify themselves who left Christ and went away upon His arrest by the Jewish. Do not be discouraged if people do not believe on what you say to them from God’s Word.

“12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.” (Mark 16:12 KJV) Those are the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, who one of them was Cleopas, and they went back to Jerusalem to inform the other disciples as we can read in *Luke 24:13-33* ***“13 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. 17 And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad? 18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days? 19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: 20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him. 21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done. 22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; 23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive. 24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not. 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. 28 And they drew nigh unto the village,***

whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further. 29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them. 30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. 32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? 33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,”

“13 And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them.” (Mark 16:13 KJV) But again they believe them not, may be because of their pride and arrogance, that Christ should appear to them first. Human arrogance may penetrate in us as well and caused us to behave in such a way, therefore we need to be aware of such. Christ will also help us to overcome the obstacles that we are passing and suffering in our life and service unto Him. He will do certain things to deal with those who oppose us, not believe on us and hinder us from serving Him.

“14 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.” (Mark 16:14 KJV) Finally Jesus revealed Himself to the disciples who refused to believe and rebuked them for that arrogance. They were at the table to eat, and that what we read in *Luke 24:36-45* *“36 And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. 37 But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. 38 And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? 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. 40 And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. 41 And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? 42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. 43 And he took it, and did eat before them. 44 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. 45 Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,”*

“15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.” (Mark 16:15 KJV) After He rebuked them, corrected them, and restoring them, He commissioned them to go and preach the gospel to every creature, including all men, and announcing to them the resurrection of the Lord and His forgiveness of sins to those who repent and come back to God. To *“preach the gospel to every creature”*, means to include even the plants and animals and all what God created, the whole universe. Plants and animals have no salvation or eternal life, but human has, so we need to believe on Him and follow Him to be with Him in Heaven and forever.

“16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.” (Mark 16:16 KJV) Those who believe need to be water baptized to bury their old life under the water. Those who do not believe they will be condemned.

“17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;” (Mark 16:17 KJV) Those who believe, will receive also the Holy Spirit seal, and the Holy Spirit baptism, that will enable them to cast out devils, and to speak with other tongues languages to impart the gospel to other nations with different tongues to them.

“18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.” (Mark 16:18 KJV) The Holy Spirit is God with us and is filling us, and that will give us protection from sicknesses, from the work of Satan and demons and from the work of witchcraft. As well as the Holy Spirit baptism will enable us to impart the healing of God to others when we lay hands and pray for them.

“19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.” (Mark 16:19 KJV) This is when He ascended to Heaven from the mount Olive in Jerusalem as we read in *Luke 24:50-53* *“50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. 51 And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: 53 And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.”* and *Acts 1:9-12* *“9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. 12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.”* Jesus now at the right hand of God the Father interceding for us and He sent us the Holy Spirit, that He promised to His disciples, to enable us to serve Him, to protect us, to guide us, and to provide for us whenever we commit ourselves to serve Him,

“20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.” (Mark 16:20 KJV) God wants us to go and preach the gospel everywhere as the early disciples did and He will confirm to us His Word that He is working with us with signs, wonders and miracles.

My dear and Beloved: Apostle Paul said, *“If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.” (1 Corinthians 15:19 KJV)* Our hope in Christ is not only in this life but in the next life to come. We may pass today through hardships difficulties, oppositions, and persecutions that will make our life mingled with pain, but we still need to put our hope in God who give us eternal life that He give us through faith in Jesus Christ, and that we will spent with Him. That will help us to bear and behave and keep living in obedience so we can meet Him and see Him when He come back, and to raise us from the

death as He rose from the death. Let this hope in Christ and the impact of His resurrection empower us to commit our life to Christ and to serve Him as we agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the Cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that revived me and implant hope again in my heart that I have a place in heaven with you. Lord I commit my life fully into your hand. Lord I believe in you. I am willing to go along with you, Lord I am willing to receive water baptism, Lord fill me with the Holy Spirit as you promised so that I can go and do the work of yours and live my life for you.*

Lord bless your church and make it grow. Lord I pray for more evangelism and more people will be reached out for Christ. Lord I pray for more Bible study groups and congregations to be planted. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit so that we can go and serve you and reach the lost. Lord help us and protect us as we persevere in serving you. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let you hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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