

Easter Series: The Last Week of Jesus. The Power of a Word

Mark 16:1-8



Mark 16:1-8 And when the Sabbath passed, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him. 2 And very early on the first day of the

week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. 3 And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" 4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was very large. 5 And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed. 6 And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, the place where they laid Him. 7 But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.'" 8 And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment were gripping them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

1) News of the Resurrection Reveals What Is Misguided. When the two Marys came to the tomb of Jesus on Sunday they had an expectation and a purpose for being there. Both of these things were guided by an act of devotion to Jesus. However, though they did not know it yet, their expectations and purpose were misguided. These women thought they knew the best way to serve Jesus as their act of love and devotion. But

loving and serving Jesus hinges not on His death, but upon His glorious resurrection. Before anyone hears the truth of the resurrection of Jesus, our best expectations and purposes in life will always be revealed as misguided.

2) News of the Resurrection Clarifies What Is True. The appearance of the angel and his divine proclamation brought clarity to the lives of these two women. With one word the angel changes the course of human history forever when he declares that Jesus has risen from the dead. They had the right person, they came to the right place, but their timing was wrong because Jesus was no longer dead, He was alive. What the women expected was no longer the truth of it all. With this clarity of truth also came a definition of purpose. Not to anoint the dead but to go and tell of the One who lives. When anyone hears the news of the resurrection of Jesus, then the truth in their life is made clear, and the purpose of their being is revealed. The news of the resurrection comes with a call to believe and a command to tell.

3) News of the Resurrection Changes Everything. After the Marys encountered the angel and heard the news of the resurrection they left the tomb. They heard the right words, they had the right purpose, but they needed time for all these things to sink in. They needed time to process this experience and to collect their thoughts. This is understandable because the implication that Jesus had risen from the dead fundamentally changes absolutely everything in their lives and their eternity. It is no small thing for anyone to hear of the news of the resurrection of Jesus and not be caught in a moment of complete astonishment. This is a news that needs to sink in because what a person does in response to this news will change everything in their life and the life to come.