

Easter in Uncertainty Times

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – April 17, 2022 (Easter)

Matthew 28:1-10

1 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. 2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. 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. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." 8 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. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Through the Resurrection...

1. DEATH HAS BEEN DEFEATED

Matthew 28:6

He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.

1 Corinthians 15:54-55

54... "Death has been swallowed up in victory." 55 "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?"

Romans 8:1-2

1... there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

2. JESUS EMPOWERS US TO OVERCOME OUR FEARS

Matthew 28:10

"Do not be afraid..."

Romans 8:11

... if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

3. JESUS IMPARTS A MISSION TO US

Matthew 28:10

"Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers...."

John 21:17

The third time [Jesus] said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

Matthew 28:18-19 (The Great Commission)

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations..."

4. JESUS PROMISES TO BE WITH YOU & EMPOWER YOU

Matthew 28:10

Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Matthew 28:20

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

Acts 1:8

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Romans 1:4

[Jesus] was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead.