

Easter 2010

“AS HE SAID”

Scripture: Matthew 28:1-6

Introduction:

- A. Jesus has suffered the awful death of crucifixion at the hand of the Roman soldiers.
- B. His body has been claimed by a disciple who was a rich man. He placed the body in the new tomb and has rolled a great stone to the door.
- C. The chief priests and Pharisees came to Pilate, saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again.
- D. They requested Pilate to make the sepulcher for three days, lest the disciples steal the body and say He was risen.
- E. Matthew 28:1-6 – In the end of the Sabbath (Saturday) as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week (Sunday) came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary expecting to anoint the body of Jesus.
- F. God had sent a great earthquake; the angel of the Lord descended from heaven and rolled back the stone from the door and sat upon it.
- G. Evidently, the women asked about the body of Jesus.
- H. And the angel answered the women. He is not here: for he is risen, AS HE SAID.

I. WHAT HAD JESUS SAID?

- A. Early in His earthly ministry Jesus had said, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” He spoke of the temple of His body. He simply said, “I will raise my body up.” (John 2:19)
- B. Jesus had also said, “No man taketh my life from me; I have power to lay it down and I have power to take it up again.” (John 10:18)
- C. Matthew 16:21 records Jesus telling His disciples how that he must go into Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and be raised again the

third day.”

- D. His disciples had heard Him say, “For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale’s belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”**
(Matt. 12:40)

II. WHY WERE THE DISCIPLES ACTING AS THEY WERE ON THIS DAY FOLLOWING THE LORD’S RESURRECTION?

- A. The majority of the disciples were hovered together in a large upper room behind locked doors for fear of the Jews.**
- B. Two had left town and were sad and speaking of Jesus as the “prophet that was.”**
- C. Some went to the tomb to anoint the dead body of Jesus.**
- D. What was the problem with these making up the church had organized?**
- E. They just did not believe what Jesus had said.**

III. ARE WE PRESENT DAY DISCIPLES ANY DIFFERENT? DO WE REALLY BELIEVE WHAT JESUS HAS PROMISED?

- A. Do you ever feel troubled at the thought of dying? Jesus has said, “Let not your hearts be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.” (John 14:1-3)**
- B. Do you ever feel like no one cares for me? Jesus does. For He said, “I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever. Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you. (John 14:16-18)**
- C. Do you ever feel that continuing to meet with our small group is worth the efforts put forth? Jesus does. For He said , Not forsaking the assembling of OURSELVES together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another; and so much the more, as YE see the day approaching. AND He also said, “where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” (Matt. 18:20)**

D. Do you ever feel alone? You are not ever alone; for Jesus said, “I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.” (Heb. 13:5)

CONCLUSIONS:

- A. Do we really believe what Jesus has said? Are do we many times act as the first church disciples acted? Do we sometime go to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus?**
- B. All of us need to thank God that the Holy Spirit is always present to say, “As he said.”**