

RESURRECTION MORNING

Mark 16; 1 Corinthians 15:12–28, 50–58; Revelation 21:3–v4

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He was gone.

How quickly life had changed for them. The women were bringing spices to the tomb of the one who taught them, walked with them, healed them. They had watched as He was laid in the tomb, and now they were coming back to tend His body. This was their reality now.

It was resurrection morning, but they didn't know it yet. They arrived at the tomb, prepared to see their crucified Lord for the last time. Instead, an angel appeared, giving them the best news. "You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen!" (Mark 16:6). The time for mourning had ended, and it was now morning, in every sense of the word.

He has risen. All of our faith hinges on this truth (1 Corinthians 15:17). Because of Jesus's death and resurrection, God has forgiven our sins and welcomed us into His great family. He invites us to encounter Him daily, as His Spirit dwells in us and produces fruit in us. Today, we rejoice over all we gain because of Jesus's resurrection.

He has risen. The gospel isn't just good news for today. The reality of Jesus's resurrection also gives us hope for all of our tomorrows. As we navigate life on this side of His resurrection, we live in anticipation of His return. This means that no matter what circumstance life presents us with, we can take comfort in the fact that our Savior is with us, always. We can take heart, because there's more to this life than...well, this life (1 Corinthians 15:29). Even though we experience hardness and deep grief along with the everyday sighs of life, we have a rich and vibrant hope.

He has risen. His resurrection guarantees our own. Not even death can change that! The risen Savior will return for us, His beloved people. God fulfilled His promise to send a Savior to redeem us, and we can rest assured our risen Savior will return for us. On that day, there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain (Revelation 21:4). He will wipe away every tear from our eyes. He will dwell with us, His people, completely and forever. It is good news, indeed!

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