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By Dan Maines

Mark 16

Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him. Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. They were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone from the entrance of the tomb for us?" And looking up, they noticed that the stone had been rolled away, for it was extremely large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a

white robe; and they were amazed. But 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; see, here is the place where they laid Him. 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.'" And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

† The resurrection was announced first to women, showing God's honor for the humble.

† The empty tomb confirmed the victory over death and vindication of Christ.

† Fear and astonishment marked the first reaction to the greatest event in history.

Mark 16:9-14

Now after He had risen early on the first day of the week, He first appeared to Mary Magdalene, from whom He had cast out seven demons. She went and reported to those who had been with Him, while they were mourning and weeping. When they heard that He was alive and that she had seen Him, they refused to believe it. Now after that, He appeared in a different form to two of them as they were walking along on their way to the country. And they went away and reported it to the rest, but they did not believe them, either. Later He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at the table; and He reprimanded them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen.

† Mary Magdalene was honored as the first witness of the risen Christ.

† The disciples' unbelief revealed their struggle, yet Christ restored them.

† The appearances confirmed the reality of His resurrection.

Mark 16:15-18

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. The one who has believed and has been baptized will be saved; but the one who has not believed will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not harm them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

† The Great Commission sent the gospel beyond Israel to the nations.

† Miraculous signs confirmed the authority of the apostles in the early church.

† Salvation came by faith and obedience to the gospel.

Mark 16:19-20

So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.

† The ascension enthroned Christ at God's right hand (Psalm 110:1).

† The disciples became bold witnesses after His resurrection and ascension.

† The kingdom was inaugurated, and the gospel spread with power.

How it applies to us today:

† Mark 16 proclaims the resurrection, the commissioning of the disciples, and the ascension of Christ. The fulfilled perspective reminds us that His promises were confirmed in that generation through resurrection, judgment, and kingdom power. For us today, it means living as witnesses of the risen and reigning

Christ, assured that His word never fails.

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

Source Index

† Josephus, Antiquities 18.3.3

† Tacitus, Annals 15.44

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History 2.23

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies 3.10.5

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