

***He is Risen!***  
Matthew 28:1-15

Immanuel, God with us in our nature, in our sorrow, in our lifework, in our punishment, in our grave, and now with us, or rather we with Him, in resurrection, ascension, triumph, and Second Advent splendor.

-Charles Spurgeon

**I. The Reality of the Resurrection**

## II. Responding to the Resurrection

### *Into the Bible*

1. Angels as God's messengers stepped into space and time in 1<sup>st</sup> century Palestine to testify to God's miraculous work. What are the key similarities between the accounts of the angelic messages given at Christ's birth (Luke 2:8-11), and after his resurrection (Matthew 28:5-8)? The key difference of course is that the first message was "He is here" and the second was "He is not here".
  
2. The reaction of the women to the news of Christ's resurrection was one of "fear and great joy." Contrast that with the reaction of the Jewish authorities. (Matthew 28:11-15) Why would people continue to believe the lie they promoted when the penalty for failing to keep watch would have been execution for the Roman guards?

