The Power of Easter

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Today's Scripture: Matthew 28:1-8

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. ²And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. ³His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. ⁴And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.

⁵But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. ⁷And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you."

⁸So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.

SO MANY FORCES CAME TOGETHER ATTEMPTING TO KEEP JESUS FROM SAVING THE WORLD

- The Cross
- The Tomb
- The Graveclothes
- The Seal
- For two days it seemed that what they had done was enough
- The world was not prepared for what happened on the third day
 - The earth shook
 - The stone was rolled away
 - The graveclothes settled in the tomb
 - He was gone

WHEN THEY CAME TO THE TOMB, THEY COULD NOT FIND A BODY

- Instead they encountered an angel, who came with an incredible announcement
- "You seek Jesus, who was crucified"
- "He is not here"
- "He is risen!"

THEN HE COMMANDED THEM

- "Come and see"
- "Go and tell"

THIS YEAR, THE WORLD SEEMS DETERMINED TO STOP EASTER AGAIN

- It is almost as though the world is conspiring against Easter
- It would be easy to become discouraged, and to believe things aren't going to get better

WE SERVE A RISEN SAVIOR

- He rose from the dead, just as He promised
- Death and Hell have been defeated
- Because He lives, we can trust Him today, tomorrow and into eternity

HE LIVES

• Remember this – Easter wins!