

## Resurrection Sunday Message – Who Stole the Body?

(Daniel Israel – 4.17.21)

### Scripture Reading

Matthew 28:11-15

11 Now while they were on their way, some of the men from the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened.

12 And when they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,

13 And said, “You are to say, ‘His disciples came at night and stole Him while we were asleep.’

14 And if this comes to the governor’s ears, we will appease him and [e]keep you out of trouble.”

15 And they took the money and did as they had been instructed; and this story was widely spread among the Jews and is to this day

### Who Stole the Body?

Colossians 2:16,17

16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths,

17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

### Is Christ’s Resurrection a fake story?

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### What are the possible evidence for Christ’s resurrection?

1 Corinthians 15:3-9

3 For I handed down to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

4 and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

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5 And that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

6 After that He appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep

7 Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles

8 And last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also

John 20:24,25

24. But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.

25. So the other disciples were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

John 20:26-29

After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you."

27. Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing."

28. Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

29. Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."

### The Spirit is our primary Witness of Jesus in this world!

Acts 1:7,8

He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;

8. but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

### The Holy Spirit equips us with Resurrection power

to become strong witnesses for Christ.

Matthew 24:14

And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

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Matthew.28:19,20

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

20. Teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Mark 16: 15,16

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.

16. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.

If Christ is not risen,

our faith is in vain!

We ought to be resurrected spiritually from the body of sin.

Christ's resurrection is a factual history.

For those who believe, it is the power of salvation.

Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will have eternal life

### Conclusion

Are you born of the Holy Spirit?

Are you resurrected by His Power?

Are you empowered by the Spirit to witness to all people?