He's Alive So We Can Follow Him

March 31, 2024

Pastor Art Dunn

Matthew 28:1-10 ¹Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁵ Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." ⁵ So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁵ And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

John 20:19-20, 26-29 ¹⁹ On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." ²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Revelation 1:17-18 ¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Introduction

- **Matthew 16:24** Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
 - o Deny Self
 - o Take Up My Cross
 - o Follow Jesus

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Proposition

3 LESSONS in the Resurrection Story

Lesson # 1. When We Follow Jesus, We Follow With Others

- **John 5:39-40** You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.
- **John 7:38** Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'
- 1 Peter 3:7 Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

Are you following Jesus? And are you following Jesus with other People?

Lesson # 2. When We're Having Problems, We Stick Together

More Windows, Less Walls

Lesson # 3. When We Can't Find Him, We Keep Following and Stick Together, and If We Don't Find Him, He'll Find Us

If we follow our conscience, we end up with a bunch of rights and wrongs.

If we follow our traditions, we end up with our heritage.

If we follow religions, we end up with more religions.

But if we follow Jesus, we will end up with God.

CONCLUSION:

Every Sermon Should Have Something To

- + Know/Understand ... We follow together, keep going and God will help us.
- + Believe ... God will see this thing through. What He starts, He finishes.
- + Do ... Pay attention to the person behind the information.