

The Earthbreaking News

Matthew 28:1-10 (NIV)

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

² There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴ The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵ The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

⁸ So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

The Earthbreaking News

The narrative in Matthew 28:1-10 unfolds with two grieving Marys approaching the tomb where Jesus was laid. Laden with spices and sorrow, they expected to find a sealed grave, but encountered a series of earth-shaking events that would alter the course of history.

As they arrived as an earthquake rattled the ground, signalling a divine intervention. An angel descended from heaven, rolling away the stone from the tomb, not to release Jesus, who had already risen, but to reveal the empty grave to the world.

This moment marked the official victory over death and the manifestation of God's power to overcome all obstacles.

The scene contrasts the supposed victories of earthly powers at the cross—priests, Pharisees, and politicians who sought to silence Jesus—with the ultimate triumph of the resurrection. Even the Roman soldiers, tasked with guarding the tomb, trembled in fear and awe at the sight of the angel, realizing the magnitude of their error in rejecting Christ.

The women, initially anxious and fearful, were reassured by the angel's words: "He is not here; for He is risen."

This declaration shattered their disbelief and ignited a newfound faith, dispelling their fears and driving them to worship the risen Savior.

The empty tomb serves as a symbol of hope and redemption, signifying the removal of barriers and the opening of a pathway to heaven. It validates Jesus' promises and affirms his deity, ensuring a new dawn of salvation for humanity.

The women, commissioned by the angel, embraced their role as messengers of this earth-shattering news. Their obedience reflects the urgency and importance of sharing the gospel, as it holds the power to transform lives and offer hope to a world in need.

The resurrection of Jesus remains the greatest miracle of all time, confirming his victory over sin, Satan, and death. It heralds a new era of hope and restoration, where death is but a sleep and Christ reigns victorious as Lord of all.

As believers, we are called to proclaim this good news to the ends of the earth, knowing that it has the power to bring about the greatest "earthquake" known to humanity—the transformation of hearts and the salvation of souls.

Let us therefore be diligent in sharing the message of Christ's resurrection, for it is the cornerstone of our faith and the hope of the world.