

God's Salvation Story Continues

Matthew 28:16-20

And the story continues.....



- After Jesus rose from the dead he stayed on the earth 40 days
- He appeared to his disciples to prove that he was alive
- He met with them to teach them on a few occasions





- They didn't understand that they were to preach the good news to the world.
- But they would understand soon

I. Being Obedient Vs. 16



- Jesus told them to go to a certain mountain in Galilee
- He was about to give them a very important command. It is called the Great Commission



II. Worshipping Jesus Vs. 17



- They worshipped, some doubted
- It may have been that there were more than just the 11
- I Corinthians 15 says that 500 people saw Jesus at one time



- Even “Doubting Thomas” believed, he was the last disciple to see the resurrected Jesus.
- Thomas said, unless I put my fingers in the nail holes. Unless I put my hand in his side, I will not believe



- But some doubted among the larger crowd
- Why would Matthew put that in his writing?
- Because that is what he saw and heard
- Not everyone will believe in Jesus



- Jesus said, I and the Father (God) are one
- I tell you the truth, before Abraham was, I am
- By saying “I am” Jesus was calling himself God



III. Jesus' Authority in The Kingdom

Vs. 18





Jesus had conquered sin and death for us
Jesus did the work of salvation by dying on
the cross

- Who gave Jesus the authority? God the Father
- Because God has wanted to set up the kingdom
- A spiritual kingdom with Jesus as the king



IV. Making Disciples Vss. 19, 20



- Go and make disciples
- The main verb is to make disciples, followers of Jesus
- Simply, people who have accepted and follow the message of Jesus



- Baptizing, it is a symbol of an inward change
- Baptizing is with water
- It is a symbol of the cleansing from sin
- It is a symbol of dying to the old self



- A person must accept Jesus as Savior before being baptized
- That is the start of a new life in Christ Jesus



- And then we are to teach all of the truths of God's Word
- The teaching of Jesus is in the 4 gospels of the Bible
- And Jesus used the Old Testament as the basis for his teaching



- We believe that the Bible is God's Word given to man
- And therefore, we study the Bible, read the Bible, listen to the Bible and listen to teachings about the Bible



- I want to share with you a story about a man that believed
- But then doubted and what he said at the end of his life
- Charles Templeton said he converted to Christianity in 1936



- He became good friends with Billy Graham in the 1940s
- He was a dynamic teacher, everyone thought he would be the better preacher of the 2 men. But then he started to doubt his faith



- 50 years later he was interviewed by Lee Strobel. Lee asked him,
- *How do you assess this Jesus?*
- Jesus is the most important human being who ever existed. Then Charles said something that you could never expect him to say
- *And I miss him*



- You are hearing about Jesus today
- You are trying to decide, should I believe in Jesus or not?
- But don't get to the end of your life and say that you missed Jesus



Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, Matt 28:19

Por tanto, vayan y hagan discípulos de todas las naciones, bautizándolos en el nombre del Padre y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo

Basi, enendeni, mkawafanye mataifa yote kuwa wanafunzi, mkiwabatiza kwa jina la Baba, na Mwana, na Roho Mtakatifu

所以你们要去使万民作我的门徒，
奉父子圣灵的名，给他们施洗

”इसलिये तुम जाकर सब जातियों के लोगों को चेला बनाओ; और उन्हें पिता, और पुत्र, और पवित्र आत्मा के नाम से बपतिस्मा दो,

Nítorí náà kí ẹ lọ sọ gbogbo orílẹ̀-èdè di ọmọ-ẹ̀yìn mi; kí ẹ máa ẹ̀se ìrìbọ̀mi fún wọ̀n ní orúkọ̀ Baba ati ti Ọmọ̀ ati ti Ẹ̀mí Mímọ̀.

Сондықтан барлық халықтарға барыңдар! Оларды Менің шәкірттерім етіп, Құдай Өкенің, рухани Ұлының және Киелі Рухының атымен шомылдыру рәсімінен өткізіңдер

I had said that God's Salvation story ended at the cross
Everything God was doing focused on the salvation work of Christ
With Jesus rising from the dead, we can call this Salvation Story Part II
After Jesus rose from the dead he stayed on the earth 40 days
He appeared to his disciples to prove that he was alive
And he met with them to teach them on a few occasions
We have recorded in Matthew one of those teaching times
The disciples did not fully understand what the resurrection meant
The Holy Spirit would reveal that to them later
They didn't understand that Jesus wanted a spiritual kingdom
They didn't understand that they were to preach the good news to the world. But they would understand soon

I. Being Obedient Vs. 16

Jesus told them to go to a certain mountain in Galilee
We don't know which mountain, it doesn't matter
That is where Jesus met them
He was about to give them a very important command
It is called the Great Commission
The last command of Jesus to his disciples
Sometimes being successful is just showing up
Being obedient is doing what Jesus asks of you
Taking the time to be somewhere rather than sitting at home

II. Worshipping Jesus Vs. 17

They worshipped, some doubted
It may have been that there were more than just the 11
I Corinthians 15 says that 500 people saw Jesus at one time
This may have been the 1 time
I can't imagine that the 11 doubted
They had seen the resurrected Christ
Even "Doubting Thomas" believed, he was the last disciple to see the resurrected Jesus.
The other disciples had seen Jesus and told Thomas Jesus was alive
Thomas said, unless I put my fingers in the nail holes
Unless I put my hand in his side, I will not believe
He wanted proof, not only seeing proof
And when Thomas finally saw Jesus, he said,

"My Lord and my God"

He was a doubter, but he became Believing Thomas
By the way, Thomas went to the ends of the earth to preach the good news. He went all the way to India
But some doubted among the larger crowd
Why would Matthew put that in his writing?
Because that is what he saw and heard
Not everyone will believe in Jesus
Even those who saw him,
We have a saying, "seeing is believing," not the case here
The Bible is very honest, truthful about what happened
I wish everyone would believe in Jesus
The real person of Jesus, who walked this earth, died for our sins and rose from the dead. That rising from the dead is the difficult thing for many to believe. And so there will be some who doubt.
But the believers, they worshipped Jesus
God is the only one who is worthy of worship
Jesus said, I and the Father (God) are one
I tell you the truth, before Abraham was, I am
By saying "I am" Jesus was calling himself God
God had spoke to Abraham and said, tell the Israelites that "I am" sent you
Jesus was the only one who walked this earth that could say that
He is the one who died and rose from the dead
He is the Savior, and Jesus is worthy to be praised

III. Jesus' Authority in The Kingdom Vs. 18

Jesus had conquered sin and death for us
Jesus did the work of salvation by dying on the cross
And Jesus rose from the dead, victorious over death so he could offer us eternal life
Therefore, all authority in heaven and on earth was in Jesus' hands
Not some authority, not most authority, but all authority
Who gave Jesus the authority? God the Father
Because God has wanted to set up the kingdom
A spiritual kingdom with Jesus as the king
Jesus was given the authority because of who he is-God the Son
And because of what he did, dying for the sins of mankind
As people put their faith in Jesus, accept Him as their Savior

The Kingdom will grow 1 person at a time
And because Jesus has the authority,
This is what he wants his followers to do
IV. Making Disciples Vss. 19, 20
Because Jesus is the king, because he has authority
Go and make disciples
The main verb is to make disciples, followers of Jesus
Simply, people who have accepted and follow the message of Jesus
And the mission is worldwide
We are to make disciples from all nations
The Good News of Jesus began in Jerusalem
By 100 AD, Christianity spread to areas around
the Mediterranean Sea and India
By 500 AD, the message of Jesus spread to Europe
By 1000 AD, it spread throughout Russia
By 1500 AD to North America and South America
By 1800 AD to Asia and Africa
By today, there are a few areas that have yet to hear
The message of Jesus spread by people going
Someone had to go, in some cases across the ocean
In other cases, it is going to meet a friend across town
2 other ways to make disciples
Baptizing, it is a symbol of an inward change
Baptizing is with water
It is a symbol of the cleansing from sin
It is a symbol of dying to the old self
Being buried and then coming out the water as a new man or woman
It is what happens before baptism in the heart that is important
The symbol of an inward change
When a person accepts Jesus as Savior, God changes your heart
Forgives you of sin, washes your life of sin
The old person is dead, you are a new person in Christ
A person must accept Jesus as Savior before being baptized
That is the start of a new life in Christ Jesus
And then we are to teach all of the truths of God's Word
The teaching of Jesus is in the 4 gospels of the Bible

And Jesus used the Old Testament as the basis for his teaching
Then the apostles used the Old Testament and Jesus' teaching as the basis
for their teaching so we teach everything in the Bible
That is why Christians hold the Bible as the most important book
We believe that the Bible is God's Word given to man
And therefore, we study the Bible, read the Bible, listen to the Bible and
listen to teachings about the Bible
The teaching about Jesus is a lifelong learning event
As I have read and studied the Bible for years, I am amazed that I am
always learning new things about the Christian life
Don't forget, Jesus is with us during it all
He is the king and he is making an eternal kingdom for us
I want to share with you a story about a man that believed
But then doubted and what he said at the end of his life
Charles Templeton said he converted to Christianity in 1936
Shortly after that he began to preach about Jesus
He became good friends with Billy Graham in the 1940s
He was a dynamic teacher, everyone thought he would be the better
preacher of the 2 men. But then he started to doubt his faith
He doubted the Bible and what it said
He then went to Princeton Seminary, they taught that the Bible
wasn't all God's word. That didn't help
He eventually left the Christian faith
50 years later he was interviewed by Lee Strobel
Lee asked him, How do you assess this Jesus?
Lee was not ready for his answer, Charles was an Atheist
Jesus was the greatest human that ever walked the earth
Jesus was the wisest, most moral man
There is no doubt that he had the highest moral standard and
the greatest compassion. I adore Jesus
Jesus is the most important human being who ever existed
Then Charles said something that you could never expect him to say
And I miss him
You are hearing about Jesus today
You are trying to decide, should I believe in Jesus or not?
There comes a point in your life where you have to make a decision
But don't get to the end of your life and say that you missed Jesus