

Easter Sunday Conquering Death

Matthew 28:1-7

¹After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

²There 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. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

⁵The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then 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.”

Romans 8:37

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

- The Garden
- The Ground
- The Grave
- The Glory

I. The Garden

- Video of the olive garden

Luke 22:40-46, Matthew 36:38,41b

⁴⁰On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.”

³⁸Then he said to them, “My soul is overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death. Stay here and keep watch with me.”

⁴¹He withdrew about a stone’s throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, ⁴²“Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done.”

⁴³An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him. ⁴⁴And being in anguish, he prayed more earnestly, and his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground.

⁴⁵ When he rose from prayer and went back to the disciples, he found them asleep, exhausted from sorrow. ⁴⁶ “Why are you sleeping?” he asked them.

“...The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

“Get up and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.”

A. Unpack the text

1. Decide in prayer – Sweat blood – the battle was fought here.

The Garden

II. The Ground

A. Time line

1. Thursday Evening

- a. Passover meal
- b. Garden of Gethsemane to pray
- c. Arrested in the garden
- d. Led to the high priest house – Caiaphas
- e. Tried there in the house

Matthew 26:63-68

⁶³ The high priest said to him, “I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.”

⁶⁴ “You have said so,” Jesus replied. “But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

⁶⁵ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. ⁶⁶ What do you think?”

“He is worthy of death,” they answered.

⁶⁷ Then they spit in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him ⁶⁸ and said, “Prophecy to us, Messiah. Who hit you?”

2. Friday morning

- a. They met again with Jesus before them.

Luke 22:66-71

⁶⁶ At daybreak the council of the elders of the people, both the chief priests and the teachers of the law, met together, and Jesus was led before them. ⁶⁷ “If you are the Messiah,” they said, “tell us.”

Jesus answered, "If I tell you, you will not believe me,⁶⁸ and if I asked you, you would not answer.⁶⁹ But from now on, the Son of Man will be seated at the right hand of the mighty God."

⁷⁰ They all asked, "Are you then the Son of God?"

He replied, "You say that I am."

⁷¹ Then they said, "Why do we need any more testimony? We have heard it from his own lips."

- b. Led to Pilot
- c. Pilot sends him to Herod
- d. Herod dresses him up like a king and sends him back to Pilot
- e. Pilot washes his hands.
- f. Then sentences him to death at the demand of the crowd
- g. Jesus crucified at roughly 9 am
- h. Jesus dies at roughly 3 pm
- i. Friday late afternoon Jesus put in the ground before 6 pm

B. The battle was won in the garden in prayer.

1. The challenge to the battle is in the "midnight season"
2. In the ground

Illustration

- **Video of the place where Jesus was held overnight**

Application

1. You will win your battles in the garden of prayer.
2. Your victory will be challenged while you are in the ground.
3. Midnight season.
4. Night season all by yourself.
5. No body is advocating for Jesus.
6. Peter has denied him.
7. Jesus stood up under the pressure.
8. The challenge. The mind games.

You are not left alone!!!

Hebrews 10:23

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Ephesians 6:13

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

The Garden**The Ground****III. The Grave**

- A. Unpack Text
- B. Death was not to be avoided.
- C. It was Jesus' goal.

Luke 23:46

⁴⁶ Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

John 19:30

³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

Death to yourself

The Garden**The Ground****The Grave****IV. The Glory****Matthew 28:1-7**

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- Picture of the empty tomb

Romans 8:10-11

¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

Victory – Resurrection power

– The same power that raised Christ from the dead is alive in you.