

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Mark 16:1-8.**
- B. We conclude our study of the gospel of Mark w/this lesson on chapter 16.
- C. JC was “delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification” (Rom. 4:25). Paul wants us to view the death, burial, and resurrection of X as a single unit. These three things work together as the crux of our faith and the hope of our salvation.
- D. The doctrine of first importance is that of the death, burial, and resurrection (1Cor. 15:1-8).
- E. The book of Acts gives witness to how the early church preached the resurrection (Ac. 1:22; 4:2, 33).
- F. The resurrection proves that JC is what He claimed to be--the Son of God (Rom. 1:4).

I. THE RESURRECTION (Mk. 16:1-14).

- A. It was still dark when Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, Salome, and Joanna started out for the tomb. When they came upon it there were three surprises:
 - 1. The stone had already been rolled away (16:1-4).
 - 2. They met two angels (Lk. 24:4) in the tomb (16:5; Mark tells of the one who spoke).
 - 3. They heard a wonderful message--He is risen (16:6-7).
- B. Mary Magdalene ran to tell Peter and John what she had discovered (Jn. 20:2-10), and then she lingered at the tomb after they left.
- C. Mark 16:8 may give the idea that all the women fled, but 16:9 states that Mary met Jesus personally. The apostles were slow to believe that Jesus was alive (16:10-11).
- D. Then Jesus appeared to those on the road to Emmaus (Lk. 24:13-31), (16:12-13).
- E. The Lord also appeared to the apostles to stop their unbelief (16:14).
- F. We also know that He appeared to many other brethren, 500 at one time, to prove His coming back from the dead (1Cor. 15:6).

II. THE COMMISSION (Mk. 16:15-18).

- A. Mark's recording of the great commission is in keeping w/the brevity of his entire gospel. It is foolish and try to pit the records of Matthew and Luke against Mark. Good Bible exegesis is to allow the passages to work together.
- B. Mark records (16:15,16) Jesus saying:
 - “Go into all the world”
 - “and preach the gospel to all creation”
 - “He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved;”
 - “but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.”
- C. Matthew (Mt. 28:19,20) records the commission this way:
 - “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations”
 - “Baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the HS”
 - “teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you;”
- D. Luke (Lk. 24:47) records the commission in this way:
 - “and that repentance for forgiveness of sins”
 - “should be proclaimed in His name to all nations,”
 - “beginning from Jerusalem.”
- E. When God sent Moses to challenge Pharaoh in Egypt, He gave him special miracles to perform as his divine credentials, proving that he was sent from God (Ex. 4:1-9). This was also true of some of the prophets (Elijah in 1Kgs. 18; and Elisha in 2Kgs. 2:14-25). The apostles were also given special “signs” that enforced their message (Ac. 19:11-12; 2Cor. 12:12; Heb. 2:3-4).
- F. The apostles and prophets laid the foundation of the church (Eph. 2:20), so their work is finished and the apostolic signs have ceased. The ability to do these things was originally given the apostles by

the baptism of the HS (Ac. 2:1-4), and the ability for non-apostles to do such works was given through the laying on of the apostles hands (Ac. 8:17-18).

- G. By looking at other passages we see that these miraculous signs mentioned in this text were for the apostles only. Do not confuse the gift of the HS given at baptism (Ac. 2:38) as the ability to work the miracles mentioned here.

III. THE ASCENSION (Mk. 16:19-20).

- A. Our Lord's ascension marked the completion of His earthly ministry and the beginning of His new ministry in heaven as High Priest and Advocate (Heb. 7-10; 1Jn. 2:1-3).
- B. The promise "the Lord worked with them" is also recorded in Mt. 28:20, "I will be with you always, even unto the end of the age."
- C. Luke records the ascension, not in his gospel, but in the first chapter of Acts. There it would seem that all the apostles witnessed the event (Ac. 1:6,10-11).

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Do you believe in the Lord's resurrection? You need to, to be saved!
- B. Do you believe in the Lord's commission? You need to, to be saved!
- C. Do you believe in the Lord's ascension? You need to, to be saved (in that way He returns)!
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.