

Reading: Exodus 20:1-17 & Matthew 28 *Children's Sermon*
Singing: 427:1, 5 – 31:1-2– 391:1-4 – 161:1, 5, 8 – 52:1-4

A. Easter is the D-Day of God's Kingdom!

B. The rising from the dead is one of most mentioned facts in the New Testament

1. Because *rising from the dead* is humanly impossible
2. Because *it is so God honoring*
3. Because *it is so comforting*

GOD'S MESSAGE IN THE ANGEL OF THE LORD

- I. God sent His angel II. God ordered His angel to open grave
III. God told the angel to sit on the stone

I. GOD SENT HIS ANGEL

A. Why did Holy Spirit guide Matthew to write *Behold* in vs. 2?

1. Is it because of the great earthquake?
2. Is it because the angel of the Lord descended from heaven?

B. What is God's message in sending His angel to earth?

II. GOD ORDERED HIS ANGEL TO OPEN THE GRAVE

A. This angel was more than God's messenger (vs. 5-7)

1. He was God's servant – a heavenly court official
Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be the heirs of salvation? (Heb. 1:14)

2. Why did God order him to open the grave? Couldn't Jesus do that Himself?

3. Rolling away the huge stone was not just *a show of power: it is a message!*

B. Easter is God's message to us all

1. It is the message about *hope for us sinners*
 - a. we are banished from God

b. we are facing *heavy stone* like the women did

2. God's order to *roll away the stone* confirms Jesus' promise for rest (Matt. 11)
a. nothing is needed from our side for salvation

b. sin hinders our communion with God but is no hindrance to come to Jesus

III. GOD TOLD THE ANGEL TO SIT ON THE STONE

A. When Jesus died & buried, Satan thought it was *good Friday for him*

B. But "Good Friday" turned out to be the worst day for Satan!

1. His 'head was bruised' – He was defeated (Gen. 3:15)

2. His defeat is pictured in *the angel sitting on the stone*

C. This is an encouraging truth as we face the end times of world!

1. We need to expect things to get worse before they get better!

2. But all this happens while Jesus sits on the throne (Rev. 5:13)

Finally, the angel was also a preacher (vs. 5-6)

A. He has a message of *joy* to all who seek Jesus

1. what is seeking Jesus?

2. what are you if you are a seeker of Jesus?

**Do any ask, the heavenly road, the shining way that leads to God?
Then hear the blessed Jesus say, "Come unto Me, I am the Way."**

**Do any wish the truth to learn, the good from evil to discern,
to shun the tempter in their youth? The Savior says, "I am the Truth."**

**Do any feel the plague of sin, Satan, and death at work within?
Jesus can quell the mortal strife, for Jesus says, "I am the life."**