

# The Mystery of the Empty Tomb

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Happy Resurrection Sunday!

Today we gather to celebrate that Jesus Christ rose from the dead – but let me remind you – we are not here to commemorate a mere historical event ... No – today is not just about looking backwards – as I believe the Spirit of the Lord is inviting us – to enter into a new spiritual dimension.

See, the resurrection of Jesus is more than a moment in history – it is a spiritual unveiling for those who have eyes to see ... It's not just a story for Sunday school – it is a dynamic realm that the Lord expects us to walk into ... It is not just a sermon I preach once a year – it is a living message – a spiritual call ... It is taking a step into something much deeper – something that carries eternal consequences.

Let's be honest – this world is obsessed with the tangible ... Obsessed with what we can see, touch, measure, and explain ... But catch this – the resurrection supersedes all that is worldly or tangible ... It defies the laws of logic and science ... It confounds the natural order of death ... And it supernaturally opens a portal for all humanity to step into the realms of the Spirit – so that all who will say: Yes – have the opportunity to embrace a new creation reality.

When Jesus rose from the dead – He didn't just get up off the cold slab He was laid upon ... He opened a portal into the heavenlies ... He tore wide open the veil between heaven and earth ... He didn't just conquer the power of the grave ... He snatched the keys of death, hell, and the grave from the spirit of death ... The empty tomb is not just a religious symbol to honor this day ... The empty tomb is a supernatural doorway into the kingdom – for all those who will respond to its call.

Now catch this radical mystery ... Jesus didn't rise alone ... The scriptures declare that when Christ was raised – we were raised with Him ... Let that sink in for a moment ... When that stone was rolled away – the entire spiritual realm shifted ... The heavens opened ... And all who are in Christ – were caught up with Him – into this resurrection reality.

Listen closely – the Spirit is calling – “Come and see the place where He lay.” ... We are not looking with our natural eyes – searching for a missing body ... We are looking with the eyes of the Spirit – seeing the revelational truths of the empty tomb.

## **TRANS**

So, before we go deeper into these mysteries of the Empty Tomb – let me ask you: Are you ready to stop treating the resurrection like a yearly religious celebration – and start living out its spiritual realities each day? ... Are you ready to shed your old grave clothes – those things that keep you bound to the old you? ... Are you ready to walk in resurrection power? ... The same power that raised Jesus from the dead? ... The same power that will transform you into your new identity in Christ? ... If you are ready – then let's dive deep into these mysteries.

## **Foundational Text**

### **Colossians 3:3 Amplified Bible**

For you died [to this world], ... And your [new, real] life - is hidden with Christ - in God.

## **The Mysteries of the Empty Tomb**

### **The Death That Sets You Free**

**Colossians 3:3a (AMP):** “For you died [to this world]”

**The Living Bible puts it like this:** “You should have as little desire for this world as a dead person does.”

Before there can be resurrection in your life – there must be a death ... The Word doesn't say this metaphorically ... It says it plainly: "You died." ... This is not symbolic ... This is a spiritual reality ... You were in Christ when He died on the Cross.

This is the starting point of the resurrection life ... You are not the same person you used to be ... See - - you are not trying to get free – you have already been made free through His death ... Now catch this revelation—the moment you said - "Yes" to Jesus, - the moment you made Him Lord of your life – you stepped into this resurrection life ... Your old self was crucified with Him ... You're not fighting the old you anymore – you are standing in the victory of the new you ... You don't need a breakthrough – you are the breakthrough ... Because resurrection didn't just happen to Jesus – it also happened to you.

But here's the part the Church hasn't done a great job preaching ... We celebrate the risen Lord – but we tend to leave out the part that you were in Him ... You were on the Cross with Him ... You were buried with Him ... And you rose from the dead with Him ... This truth isn't just a theology concept – this is a spiritual reality ... You have been made a new creation in Christ – a *Kainos* being ... You are now one with Him ... Your spirit is joined with His Spirit ... So, this is the Mystery – your death and resurrection with Christ isn't the end – it is the beginning ... It is your entrance into the divine ... It is your empowerment to walk in newness of life ... So, the power of death – hell – and the grave no longer has a hold on you ... It is time to shed those old grave clothes and walk out of that grave ... The old is gone and the new has begun – today

### **Your Life Is Now Hidden in Glory**

**Colossians 3:3b (AMP):** "and your [new, real] life is hidden with Christ in God."

Now catch this by His Spirit ... You didn't just die with Him – you rose with Him – into a hidden life ... A life not shaped by circumstances ... A life not defined by your past ... A life that is not visible to the natural eye ... This is where the resurrection becomes your revelation ... You're not becoming holy – you've already been made holy in Christ ... You're not

searching for peace – you are the carrier of peace ... You're not trying to win the victory – you have already won and are more than a conqueror, because Christ has already overcome!

Now catch this – the mystery of the tomb is not about confusion ... It's about depth ... It's about a spiritual reality that's deeper than what our senses can perceive ... That's why Paul says, "Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things." ... Why? ... Because the Kingdom of God is within you ... So, stop striving to pull heaven down ... Our priority is to come into alignment with the Kingdom within – our oneness with Christ – understanding our life is now hidden in Him.

But here's an even deeper mystery ... What is hidden is not lost nor unseen – it is simply protected ... What is hidden isn't far away – it is within you ... What is hidden within are the riches and glory of Christ – because He lives within us.

### **Colossians 1:27 (NLT)**

"For God wanted them to know that the riches and glory of Christ are for you Gentiles, too. And this is the secret: Christ lives in you. This gives you assurance of sharing His glory."

So, you need to stop looking into the mirror of life trying to figure out who you are ... You need to start looking into the mirror of His glory to see your new creation being ... The Resurrection life doesn't just promise us future glory ... It unlocks a present dimension of glory that the resurrection provides for us – in Christ – and the Father expects us to walk it out right now.

### **The Stone Was Rolled Away from the Outside**

Now – let's go even deeper ... When the women came to the tomb, the stone had already been rolled away ... Now catch this – the angel didn't roll the stone away to let Jesus out ... He had already risen ... He was already glorified ... He was already moving and flowing in resurrection life ... But here is the revelational nugget ... The stone wasn't rolled away for Him – it was rolled away for us ... It was rolled so we could look in – not to see if Jesus was still there – but to witness His absence ... And that absence speaks volumes that rippled through the heavenlies ... This absence says - - "He is not here... He has risen!"

Now catch this – the empty tomb is not just about what’s missing ... It is about a deep revelational truth ... It is about who you have now become ... See – if He’s not in the grave – then neither are you ... If He has risen – then so have you.

Think about this a minute ... The stone was rolled away from the outside by an angel ... Why? ... Because man couldn’t open this new dimension on his own ... There needed to be divine intervention – a heavenly mandate – enacted by a heavenly messenger – to roll the stone away – so that mankind could witness this mystery of the empty tomb.

Now catch this revelational nugget ... That same power that rolled the stone from Jesus’ tomb – is the same divine power rolling away the stones in your life ... Those stones of past traumas ... Those stones of past failures and shame ... Those stones of limitations and fears ... The empty tomb isn’t just about a risen Lord – it is a power that removes every barrier that has been erected in your life ... It is time for you to walk away from the shadows of the tomb – and walk into the light of this resurrection life.

## TAKE AWAY

### **It’s Time for You to Step Out of the Tomb**

This is the moment where the mystical can become miraculous ... But let’s be honest – some of us have continued to linger around our personal tomb – for far too long ... We have actually become comfortable with our grave clothes and the atmosphere of our tomb ... We haven’t fully captured the truth that our tomb is a place of failure – of regrets – of dead and unfulfilled dreams ... And our grave clothes are the place of guilt – shame – fear – limitations – self-doubt.

But if you have ears to hear this morning – you will hear the voice of the Spirit saying: “Come forth!” ... Just like Lazarus – Jesus is standing outside of your grave – and He is calling your name ... He’s commanding every demon - “Loose him - and let him go.” ... “Loose her - and let her live.” ... His resurrection power has devastated and completely destroyed everything – you used to be ... The enemy no longer has any legal hold upon your life.

## 1 Corinthians 15:55 (The Voice)

“Hey, Death! ... What happened to your big win? ... Hey, Death! ... What happened to your sting?”

The Resurrection life is not something you earn ... It is something you simply receive by faith ... It is not just about a future hope of glory ... It is about the present-day reality of the indwelling power – that is yours – because your life is now hidden in Him ... It is not about a new you – that will manifest someday in eternity ... It is about the new – Kainos being – you have become – and can live out in the Spirit – right now.

Today is the day – for you to receive this resurrection life and power ... Today is the day – for you to walk in this new creation – resurrection life ... Today is the day – that you step out of the tomb – and fully embrace these divine mysteries of the empty tomb ... How do you do this?

## Romans 10:8-13 New King James Version

But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach): ... 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ... 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ... 11 For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” ... 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. ... 13 For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

## Activation Prayer

Let’s take a moment right now and respond to the call of the Spirit ... If you hear Him calling your name today ... And if you’re ready to step out of the tomb ... Then pray this from your heart – boldly, sincerely, expectantly - - Let’s pray

Father, Today, I respond to Your voice ... I hear You calling me – out of every tomb ... Out of regret, out of shame, out of fear, out of the old me ... And I say YES to this resurrection life ... I believe Jesus died for me ... I believe God raised Him from the dead for me ... I believe I was

in Him on the Cross – crucified and buried with Him ... And now I have been raised with Him – to walk in newness of life ... Jesus, I confess You as my Lord ... I believe You are alive seated at the right hand of the Father ... And because You live – I live also – hidden in You ... Right now – I choose to step out of every grave that tries to hold me ... I leave behind every lie that tries to define me ... I now declare that I am a new creation ... I am filled with resurrection power ... I am hidden in Christ – seated at the right hand of the Father ... I am alive – consumed with the glory of God ... Thank You, Jesus – for choosing me and calling my name ... I step out of the tomb – and I step into my resurrection life ... In Jesus' name. Amen.