

Angels at the Resurrection – What Do They Teach Us?

Question: What is the most powerful thing that you have seen or experienced?

1. The Angels Teach Us to Believe in the Power of God.

Read Matthew 28:1-4. What examples of force, strength, or energy do you see in this passage?

Why did the angel sit on the stone? What is he trying to communicate?

Read these passages on the power of the resurrection: Matthew 22:23-32; Romans 1:4; Philippians 3:10-11, 20-21. How do you think other things compare with the power that God used in resurrecting Christ?

This angel teaches us to believe in God's power. From the world's perspective we have "little power," but every believer has Christ's resurrection power in them! Read Ephesians 1:18-20.



Question: Whose testimony was instrumental in leading you to Christ?

2. The Angels Teach Us to Believe in the Testimony of God.

Matthew 28:5-7 (= Mark 16:5-7) – One angel speaks to Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome.

Luke 23:55-24:8 – Two angels speak to Joanne and the women from Galilee.

Why two angelic announcements? (Read Deuteronomy 19:15.)

The testimony for the resurrection is overwhelming: two announcements, three visitations by angels, 11 appearances of Jesus to people (that we know of), and during one appearance Jesus was seen by 500 people (1 Corinthians 15:3-8)! Acts 1:3: *He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.*

These angels teach us to believe in the trustworthiness of God's testimony about the resurrection. There are many witnesses that prove Christ rose from the dead! You can believe it!

Question: When was the time that you most needed God's mercy and forgiveness?

3. The Angels Teach Us to Believe in the Living Presence of Christ as the Way that God Now Meets People.

Read John 20:10-12. What is the location of the angels? Where had Christ been located? Does the arrangement of their location suggest anything?

Where did God meet His people in the Old Covenant? Exodus 25:17-22.

Where does God meet His people in the New Covenant? John MacArthur writes: "The mercy seat is no longer the Ark of the Covenant. It is the resurrected Christ. There's a new mercy seat; and nobody needs to sprinkle blood there anymore because Jesus Christ has *once for all* accomplished the sacrifice that took care of sin."

The angels teach us that the resurrected Christ is our forever source of mercy. As a repentant believer in Christ, you have forgiveness.