Psalter: 29:1,3 - 113:4 - 58:1,2,3 - 440:1,2 - 426:1,4 - 183:2,4

Scripture: Mat. 28:1-10

**THE RISEN SAVIOUR MINISTERING UNTO THE WOMEN ON EASTER MORNING**

1. **Seeing the sepulchre**

* Friday:
  + The women were on Golgotha and at the sepulchre; all their hopes shattered.
  + The love *of* Jesus in their heart induces them to prepare a proper burial for Him.
  + The leadings of the Lord become incomprehensible to them. Yet, at the bottom of their heart there is that love to the Lord.
* Sabbath - mourning (cf. Ps. 42: 4,5,10).
* First day of the week:
  + They are irresistibly drawn to that grave.
  + Beset with sorrows and perplexities (cf. Ps. 77:7-9).

1. **Seeing an angel**

* Earthquake: God is showing His presence and His power.
* Soldiers guarding the sepulchre:
  + Women were not aware of this.
  + Typifies man’s opposition against God (cf. Ps. 2:1-4)
  + Are terrified by power appearance of the angel.
    - Appl: If we neglect the great salvation which Christ has merited, we shall experience the full wrath of the Lamb (Rev. 6:16-7:1; Heb. 2:1-3).
* Women are terrified likewise, but hear:
  + “*Fear not ye*”
    - God is fully satisfied with Jesus’ active and passive obedience.
  + *“For I know that ye seek Jesus”*
    - God’s children do not learn everything at once and constantly remain desirous to learn more of Christ (cf. Phil. 3:10).
  + “*which was crucified”*
    - Death has not defeated Jesus, but Jesus has defeated death.
    - Appl: How did you come to church this morning?
  + *“He is not here”* 
    - There is no dead Jesus here.
  + *“for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay”*
    - Empty grave (cf. Lk. 24:3, 12; Jn 20:7) confirms the word of Jesus. He lives!
  + “*as he said*”
    - The Holy Spirit makes remember the words of the Lord (Lk. 24:8; Mat. 20:18-19; cf. 16:21, 17:23; Lk 24:7).
    - Appl: Jesus rose for the salvation and glorification of unworthy sinners. (Phil. 3:21; 1 Cor. 15:20).

1. **Seeing the risen Saviour**

* *“And they departed quickly from the sepulchre”*
  + Now joy started to stream into their soul. Yet, at the same time there was still fear in their soul.
* “*and did run to bring his disciples word*”
  + There is joy, but also still fear in their heart.
* “*Behold Jesus met them*”
  + They had come to find a dead Jesus; now the living Jesus finds them.
  + The same body (Lk. 24:39), yet a different body.
  + He rose:
    - For their justification (Rom. 4:23-25);
    - For their sanctification (Rom. 6:5-6);
    - As the Victor over all the enemies.
* “*And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him*.”
  + May we in deep adoration worship at His feet!
* “*Go tell my brethren*.”
  + Christ died for them and rose again for them (Jn. 10:10; 20:31).