

TEXT: Matthew 28:1-10

- ¹ NOW AFTER the Sabbath, near dawn of the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala and the other Mary went to take a look at the tomb.
- ² And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled the boulder back and sat upon it.
- ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his garments as white as snow.
- ⁴ And those keeping guard were so frightened at the sight of him that they were agitated, *and* they trembled and became like dead men.
- ⁵ But the angel said to the women, Do not be alarmed *and* frightened, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, Who was crucified.
- ⁶ He is not here; He has risen, as He said [He would do]. Come, see the place where He lay.
- ⁷ Then go quickly and tell His disciples, **He has risen from the dead, and behold, He is going before you to Galilee;** there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you.
- ⁸ So they left the tomb hastily with fear and great joy and ran to tell the disciples.
- ⁹ And *as they went*, behold, Jesus met them and said, Hail (greetings)! And they went up to Him and clasped His feet and worshiped Him.
- ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, Do not be alarmed *and* afraid; **go and tell My brethren to go into Galilee, and there they will see Me.**

INTRO: On this Resurrection Sunday morning, we stand amazed with the women who see the angel at the empty tomb. The angel announces to them, **“He is risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee.”** Hallelujah – **It WAS Friday, But Sunday Has Come!**

{For the next 7 or so minutes, I would like to yield the Pulpit to a voice from beyond the grave. One of the finest Men of God to ever proclaim the Gospel. Dr. S. M. Lockridge.

Insert This Video - Greatest Sermon ever Preached "That's My King" aka "Seven Way King": Dr. S.M. Lockridge (OFFICIAL)

Often, we think of the death and resurrection of Jesus as a past event. “He was crucified, dead, and buried” is how the Creed says it. And it goes on, The third day He arose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

But Between Jesus Rising And His Ascension, Some Wonderful Things Happen.

- a) He goes before them, just as he has always done, showing the way.
- b) He goes before them to lead them, to guide them, to encourage them.
- c) Just as God’s presence in the Exodus went before Israel in the cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night, Jesus goes before his disciples, too. **It WAS Friday, But Sunday Has Come!**
- d) And on this Resurrection morning, Jesus still goes before us.
- e) If Resurrection Sunday is about new life, God’s new kingdom, a new beginning for all of creation, then Jesus still goes before those of us who celebrate his rising 2000+ years later.

BODY: This morning/tonight I would like to share with you Nine (9) places Jesus goes before us.

1st Jesus Goes Before Us In Good Times. [John 2:1-10](#)

At the wedding in Cana of Galilee, his first public miracle, Jesus rejoiced with a bride and groom, and showed that God saves the best for last.

2nd Jesus Goes Before Us In Lean Times. [Matthew 14:13-21](#)

When thousands gathered to hear him preach, staying long past the dinner hour, Jesus fed them.

Jesus' feeding of the 5,000 and the 4,000 tells us that in God's economy there is always enough and to spare.

3rd Jesus Goes Before Us In Sickness. [Matthew 9:20-22](#) Also [Matthew 14:36](#)

He knew what it was to touch those thought to be broken and outcast by disease and illness.

He made lepers whole, opened blind eyes, healed them with only a word.

Jesus goes before us in our sickness and pain, offering the touch of his hand, the encouragement of his presence in the midst of our physical limitation.

4th Jesus Goes Before Us In Conflict. [John 1:11-13](#)

He knew what it was like to be rejected by his own townspeople, as well as religious leaders.

He did not come for the purpose of creating conflict, but his presence was a threat to the systems of greed, corruption, and dead religiosity.

- a) Jesus Was Accused of Blasphemy Three Times – [Matthew 9:1-8](#); [Mark 2:1-12](#); [Luke 5:17-26](#) to name a few.
- b) Jesus Was Accused Of Being A Glutton and Drunkard – [Matthew 11:19](#)
- c) Jesus Was Accused Of Sorcery – [Matthew 12:24](#)
- d) Jesus Was Accused Of Eating With Sinners – [Matthew 9:10-17](#); [Mark 2:15-22](#); [Luke 5:29-39](#)
- e) Jesus Was Accused Of Healing/Breaking The Sabbath – [John 5:1-18](#)
- f) Jesus Is Accused By His Family – [Mark 3:21](#)

5th Jesus Goes Before Us In Doubt. [John 20:24-31](#)

He welcomed Thomas with his doubts and assured him of his place in God's kingdom.

He was patient with disciples who did not understand, fled in fear, and acted as though three years with Jesus had never happened.

6th Jesus Goes Before Us When Friends Fail Us. [Deuteronomy 31:8-9](#)

He knew what it was like, not only to be attacked by enemies, but to be abandoned by friends.

All the disciples fled, except Peter, and he denied he knew Jesus.

7th Jesus Goes Before Us In Sorrow And Death. [His Last Words From The Cross](#)

He wept for Lazarus at his grave, then raised him to life. [John 11:33-35](#)

He mourned for a city that would not listen, wept tears of grief at his impending death, cried out in agony from the cross, and suffered in silence before his accusers. [Matthew 23:37](#)

8th Jesus Goes Before Us To Heaven. Acts 1:1-11 - Turn and Read

His death and resurrection break the hold of physical death on this world and ushers in the age of the inbreaking kingdom of God.

He goes to prepare a place for us, and if he goes, he will come again and receive us unto himself, that where he is we may be also. **John 14:1-6**

9th Jesus Goes Before Us Into Hell. The Apostles Creed says, He descended into hell.

Jürgen Moltmann - born 1926 and 97 years old at the time of this message, renown theologian from Germany, says that because we have a Savior who descends into hell, there is hope.

But Jesus does not just go before us, he invites us to meet him in Galilee. Galilee, where it all started.

Where Jesus called fishermen and tax collectors, where he taught beside the sea, and where he would meet his disciples again for breakfast on the beach.

Galilee is a place of memories, but also a place of ministry. Galilee is where the world was given a glimpse of the kingdom of God, a new kingdom **1st Established by Love, 2nd Empowered by the Spirit, and 3rd Including all who follow the King.**

Galilee, where Jesus lives a life of love before those who come to love him; where he puts before the world God's great plan to make all things new.

SUMMARY: We have looked at but a few of the places where Jesus goes before us. Make no mistake, if you belong to Jesus, know that He ALWAYS goes before us.

If you do not know Jesus as your personal Savior, know this, Jesus has already gone before you to purchase your salvation and is waiting on you to come to Him.!

CONCLUSION: Allow me to conclude this message with a true story.

Bennett Cerf - 1898-1971, writer, and social commentator, and co-founder of American publishing firm Random House, told this story one year at Easter:

A little girl was orphaned when her family was tragically lost. She was placed in a foster home, where unfortunately the couple who was charged with her care was more interested in the check they got, than in the little girl. While they provided for her basic needs, the atmosphere in that house was cold and impersonal, and the little girl was left for hours on end alone in her attic room.

With little to do and no friends, the little girl soon spotted a squirrel in the tree that rose up by the window in her room. Each day she would greet her new friend and managed to sneak small pieces of bread and fruit from the table to him.

One day, the woman of the house heard the little girl talking. Thinking someone must be in her room, she burst through the door, only to find the little girl at the open window, talking to the squirrel who was perched on a nearby tree limb.

Furious, the woman slammed down the window, and ordered the little girl never to do that again. She left the room and waited on the stairs for what she knew would be an angry outburst from the child. Instead, nothing happened.

Peeping through the crack in the door, the woman saw the little girl bent over her desk, writing carefully in large block letters. She watched as the little girl finished her writing, folded the note tightly several times, and then pulled on her coat.

The woman hid in the hall as the little girl made her way from her room, down the stairs, and out the backdoor of the house. Quickly she pulled herself up on a low-hanging limb, and pushed the folded note into a fork on the tree. Then, she came back inside, and went to her room.

The woman had watched the little girl carefully. When her husband got home, she told him the story, and badgered him until he got the step ladder and retrieved the note from the tree branch.

The woman opened the note and to her amazement, read what the little girl had written:

“Whoever finds this, I love you.”

And that’s what God has done. Sent Jesus, filled with God’s love, sent him ahead of every difficulty we might have in life, sent him into a world that did not receive him, turned on him, and killed him. Sent him to say, “Whoever finds this, I love you.”

Prayer and Invitation: