

We are women who know the joy of the Spirit-filled life. We live and abide in the love of Jesus, trusting that He is enough to meet every need and satisfy every heart.

Resurrection Greetings

The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him. Now I have told you.'

So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. 'Greetings,' he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshipped him. Matthew 28:3-10

Early, the women arrived at the grave on that first morning. Brokenhearted, they came to "look at the tomb," Matthew says. What they saw that morning changed human history. Their account became the living witness of Jesus' resurrection life. I marvel still that the women saw the empty tomb first, and that God designed it that way.

What did they see when they arrived in that garden? They saw the angel with clothes as white as snow. They saw that the angel sat on the stone which had been rolled away. (What a precious detail that Matthew adds to this story.) They saw the open grave and the bodies of the soldiers lying stricken in fear.

And then, they heard something...the angel spoke with kindness and with instructions specifically for them. The Father planned this encounter, knowing who would come at the dawn of that Easter day. Can you hear Him instructing the archangel, "The women will be arriving first, and here is the message I want you to give to them." The mighty angel, prepared and waiting, gave them God's message.

1. Do Not Be Afraid! – The angel triumphantly relayed his message, the best message ever spoken. "I know you seek Jesus. He is not here! He is Risen!"

- 2. Come and See– The angel invited the women into the empty grave to see the place where Jesus' body had lain cold and dead. The tomb was gloriously forken. The women were invited ot see it for themselves! What privilege!
- 3. Go Quickly and Tell The angel gave the women a divine assignment, "Go and tell the disciples" that Jesus is alive; He is going before, and will come to meet them! They will see Jesus again!!

Imagine the women backing away from the tomb, staring in wonder at the angel. Imagine the hope rising in their fearful and racing hearts. Matthew says, "So the women hurried away, afraid yet filled with joy." Joy mingled with disbelief as they ran to tell the disciples. As they obeyed the Father's instructions, Jesus came and met them! What a word for us as well!

"Greetings," he says. That word of greeting has reverberated through human history and brought joy and hope to everyone who bears His name. Jesus greeted the women from the eternal side of the empty tomb.

Do you know Jesus still greets women who come to meet Him? He still shows up when we follow the instructions designed for us by the Father. He stil appears to those who love Him.

And when He comes to us, we can follow the women's example.

- They came! They drew near to the One they loved.
- They clasped his feet! They held on tight!
- They worshiped Him!

Worship....the only appropriate response to the Risen Lord Jesus!

May we be women who draw near, hold on tight, and worship Him!