

Treasures From The Empty Tomb

“He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay” (Matt. 28:6).

Some of my fondest childhood memories are associated with the church I attended as a boy. While my life was impacted by the time of worship, I also had fun with the other children. Often, before or after the service, and sometimes both, we would play together on the church property. We jumped off the church steps and off the brick wall out front and we ran around the church and in the parking lot.

Sometimes we would run through the cemetery on the other side of the road. The adults had warned us not to run on the graves, and personally, I took that warning very seriously. I tried to stay in the path and not get on any of them. On several occasions, when it wasn't dark, I had noticed that some of them sank down in the ground, and it was more than I could bear to think of falling into one of the older graves.

Feeling fearful about death and hesitant around a cemetery, especially at night, is a most common response. But according to our text, there is nothing to fear and no reason to feel hesitant at the empty tomb of Jesus. In fact, along with the early followers of Christ, who found angels and the clothes of Jesus inside, we are blessed with treasures from the empty tomb!

The tomb is empty that our lives might be filled! Yes, Jesus had been in the tomb! But now it was barren and empty. Christ has risen from the dead! Hallelujah! He is alive and well! And He lives to live in believing hearts! Sin left us barren, empty, and unfulfilled. But by His Spirit, the living Lord resides within us. Now we can say, “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me” (Gal. 2:20).

The tomb is conquered that our beings might be healed! Before God saves sinners by His grace, the law of sin and death completely rules over them. There is nothing that is not diseased and defiled. The resurrection life of Jesus, however, brings spiritual healing and productivity. “But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life” (Rom. 6:22).

The tomb is open that our souls might be sealed! Jesus Christ is alive! He lives to live His life in us! From His life comes blessing and healing. Having received His life, we are “sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise” (Eph. 1:13). Death has no power over us! The cemetery presents no fear! The seal of Christ's tomb was broken, but believers are “sealed unto the day of redemption” (Eph. 4:30). These are treasures from the empty tomb! Are they yours?