**The Risen Lord and His Commission** *(Matthew 28:18-20)*

**Introduction**

1. What is commonly referred to as “The Great Commission,” is recorded in **Matthew 28:18-20**.
	1. It is an important part of our responsibility before Christ.
	2. **(v. 7)** – this commission is not something solely given to the Apostles.
		1. Two Marrys told to tell the disciples of Jesus that He is risen.
		2. ***“He is going before you into Galilee”*** – Marrys included; others included.
		3. **The group to which He spoke was larger than just the twelve.**
2. Christians are given the command to spread the Gospel!
	1. **Acts 8:4** – After Stephen was stoned, and Saul was wreaking havoc on the church.
	2. **Acts 18:24-28** – Aquila and Priscilla teach Apollos the Gospel. Apollos then refuted the Jews, and continued to teach.
	3. **2 Timothy 2:1-2** – Timothy told to commit the Gospel to faithful men. They would in turn do the same – the effect being the spreading of the word.
	4. ***“the church of the living God…[is the] pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Timothy 3:15)***.
3. We not only are commanded to spread the Gospel, but we should be willing to, and that should be driven by our love for fellow man.
4. The “Great Commission” is closely related to the resurrection of our Lord.
	1. **The resurrection of Christ is a vital truth on which Christianity is based.**
	2. **There comes with the resurrection certain truths which necessitate the spreading of the Gospel.** 🡪
5. The Resurrection and the Commission
6. News of the Resurrection Important and Urgent
	1. **Matthew 28:1-8** – The angel’s command was an urgent one. Go quickly!
	2. **V. 9-10** – Jesus thought it important the disciples know as well!
7. Resurrection of Jesus – A Keystone of Christianity **(*If it is removed Christianity crumbles.*)**
	1. **Matthew 28:11-15** – Jewish leaders obstinate. **They knew the resurrection had occurred, but wanted to squash the truth at the beginning!**
	2. **1 Corinthians 15:12-19** – If Christ is not risen there is no hope!
		1. No spiritual resurrection.
		2. No bodily resurrection – overcoming death.
		3. All the Apostle’s doctrine is false – Largely concerned the resurrection of Christ.
8. We must spread the truth – He is risen!
	1. **Luke 24:44-47** – it was necessary for Christ to suffer, and rise from the dead – this they needed to tell people about.
		1. **The necessity of His death, AS WELL AS HIS RESURRECTION is to be proclaimed**.
		2. **This logically connects with repentance and remission of sins**.
	2. ***The FACT that Jesus is risen from the dead establishes current truths of which all men must be aware. We must care enough to tell them! 🡪***
9. Truths Supported by the Resurrection (***Need to be heard. Thus, need to be taught.)***
10. Jesus Christ is King
	1. **Mark 16:19-20** – after giving commission, received up to heaven. At right hand of God.
	2. **Acts 2:32-36** – He is exalted to the right hand of God. He is LORD and Christ.
	3. **Hebrews 1:1-2, 8-13** – God speaks through Him. He is the voice of authority. He has a kingdom. He has a throne.
	4. **Matthew 28:18** – His authority is all encompassing!
		1. Cf. **Romans 2:12-16 – v. 16** all will be judged by the gospel.
		2. Some suggest ***“by nature”*** refers to an innate universal moral law that the Gentiles were under.
			1. They then claim that still exists, and that only Christians are under the Law of Christ. (Used to teach that unlawful marriages can be continued with new Christians because that law of marriage didn’t apply to them.)
			2. They were given law through Gentile prophets of God, and priests.
			3. They observed the Jew’s conduct under OT that was acceptable to God and did the same.
		3. **They had REVEALED LAW, but now it is the LAW OF CHRIST that ALL are under.**
	5. **Jesus is king and demands that all submit to His rule. The majority has not. We must warn them!**
		1. **He will punish those who fail to submit.**
		2. **All will be judged by Him 🡪**
11. **Judgment According to Gospel**
	1. **Acts 17:30-31 –** Paul called the Gentiles to repent – to submit to the King (Jesus’) reign!
		1. There will be a judgment of all men.
		2. It is confirmed by His resurrection!
		3. **We must tell men He was raised, and that there will be judgment.**
	2. **John 5:24-30 –** Because Christ was raised, both good and evil men will be raised in the judgment.
		1. Good to life. Good=Those who submit to the King’s rule.
		2. Evil to condemnation. Evil=Those who don’t submit to the King’s rule.
	3. **Romans 2:6-11** – God shows no partiality in His judgement. **We need to tell men the judgement is coming, and how they will be judged!**

**Conclusion**

1. **2 Peter 3:9** – God does not want any to perish. He wants all to be saved.
2. The truth of the resurrection is one that we should not keep to ourselves.
	1. It demands and deserves proclamation.
	2. **The world NEEDS to hear it – because there is a King they must submit to, and He will judge them by His word (whether they submit or not).**
	3. **We are given the grave responsibility to tell the world this truth!**