

# Welcome to the church of Christ at Alisal

## Sermons for the Lord's Day

A.M. - Angels Revisited  
P.M. - Angels Revisited - part two



## Announcements Alisal Weekly

1. Wednesday Bible Class - Romans class - chapter 8 #4 - please bring your notebooks.
2. Wednesday Invitation - Paul

## Prayer List

1. **The Lord's church** - for stronger dedication from the members.
2. **Charles Barry** - for his physical therapy going well.
3. **Beverly Pereira** - for continued dedication to the Lord.
4. **Norma Decker** - for stronger faith in Jesus and better health.
5. **Rosemarie Johnson** - for relief from her health problems
6. **Bobby Glover** - for strong faith and teaching those he is with.
7. **David Smith** - for better attendance.
8. **Michael White** - for success at truck driving school and service to the Lord.
9. **David & Vicki Ryal** - for good health and David's return to the pulpit.
10. **Raymond and Virginia Elliott** - for good health and strength to continue teaching those in and outside the body of Christ.
11. **Don Walker** - for a successful heart transplant operation.

## The Resurrection "Cover-up Story"

Royce Frederick

The religious leaders had worked very hard to have Jesus executed by the Roman government. He was finally in the tomb, and they were determined to keep Him there. With the permission of the Roman governor Pilate, the enemies of Jesus sealed His tomb and placed soldiers there to guard it.

However, early on the first day of the week, some of those soldiers came to the religious leaders and disturbed them with the "bad news" that Jesus was no longer in the tomb. The leaders quickly decided to try to cover up the truth by giving the soldiers a bribe. They "...gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, saying, 'Tell them, "His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept." And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure.' So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day" (Matthew 28:12-15).

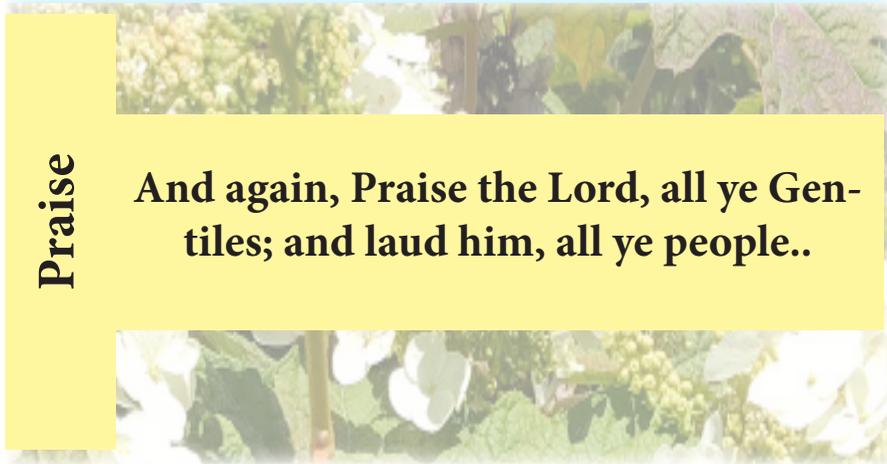
The religious leaders could not keep the tomb of Jesus sealed and occupied. So, they tried to seal the lips of the soldiers. Notice how ridiculous their "cover-up story" was.

- The penalty for falling asleep during guard duty was usually death. Therefore, we should become highly suspicious at the open claim by the soldiers that they had fallen asleep.
- Our suspicion should be further aroused by the governor's failure to execute the soldiers.
- We should also be suspicious at the absence of outrage by the religious leaders. We would expect them to demand the execution of the soldiers.
- The "guard" or "watch" of soldiers at the tomb included several soldiers (Matthew 28:11-12). It is strange for some of the soldiers to claim that they were all asleep at one time.
- It is totally unreasonable to believe that the disciples could roll away the large stone and steal the body of Jesus so quietly that a group of sleeping soldiers would not be disturbed.
- It is absurd for the soldiers to claim that they knew what happened and who did it, while at the same time claiming they were asleep.
- With the Roman soldiers as "witnesses," our suspicion should be raised even higher by the fact that no attempt was made to arrest the disciples on the charge of grave robbing.

There was no dispute at all concerning the fact that Jesus of Nazareth actually lived, that He died on the cross and that His tomb became empty. Even the bitter enemies of Jesus did not deny these facts. Instead, those enemies tried to explain how His tomb became empty. Their ridiculous "cover-up story" serves as testimony from His enemies that the tomb of Jesus did indeed become empty! It is not surprising that thousands of people believed the testimony of the witnesses who saw the risen Lord, rather than believing the "cover-up story" (Acts 2:32-41; 4:4; 5:14; 6:7).

**Where does it say this in the Bible?**

Answer to last weeks question... Luke 2:14



[After Elizabeth's exclamation of how blessed Mary was,] Mary responded, "Oh, how my soul praises the Lord. How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior! For he took notice of his lowly servant girl, and from now on all generations will call me blessed. For the Mighty One is holy, and he has done great things for me. He shows mercy from generation to generation to all who fear him. His mighty arm has done tremendous things! He has scattered the proud and haughty ones. He has brought down princes from their thrones and exalted the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands. He has helped his servant Israel and remembered to be merciful. For he made this promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his children forever." Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then went back to her own home. — Luke 1:46-56

Thought:

Two thoughts immediately strike me about Mary's song — known as the Magnificat. First, notice how easily she slipped into praise passages from the Old Testament to speak her praise to God! Imagine being that familiar with the language of praise. What a wonderful thing for us to do — to let the language and idiom of praise from the Bible become our own. Second, Mary was probably very young when this happened. We often expect way too little of our children's knowledge of Scripture. So let's be touched by Mary's praise, and then let's take these two principles and turn them loose in our lives and families!

January 20, 2019

*Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.*

1 Corinthians 11:2



**Meeting Days and Times**

**Sunday** ..... 9:00 am Class - 10:00 am & 5:00 pm Worship

**Wednesday** ..... Bible Class, singing & prayer - 6:30 pm

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