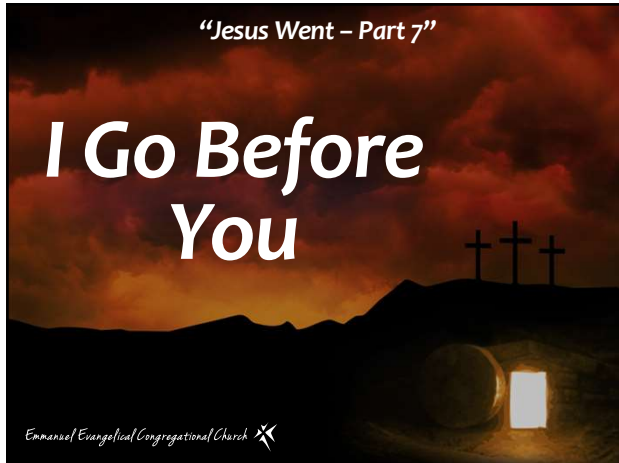


*"Jesus Went – Part 7"*

# I Go Before You



*Emmanuel Evangelical Congregational Church* ✕

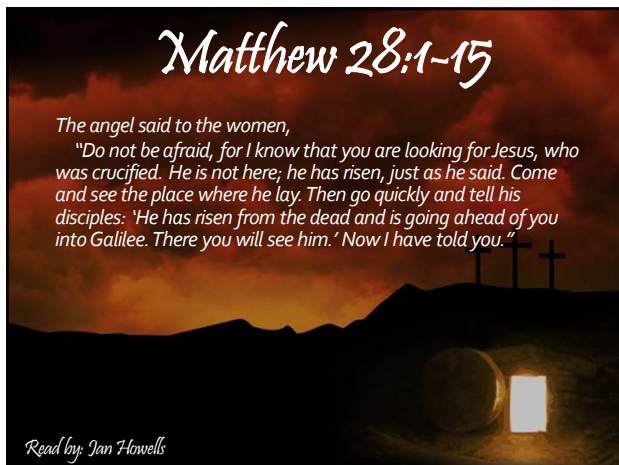
## Matthew 28:1-15

*After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.*

*Read by: Jan Howells*

## Matthew 28:1-15

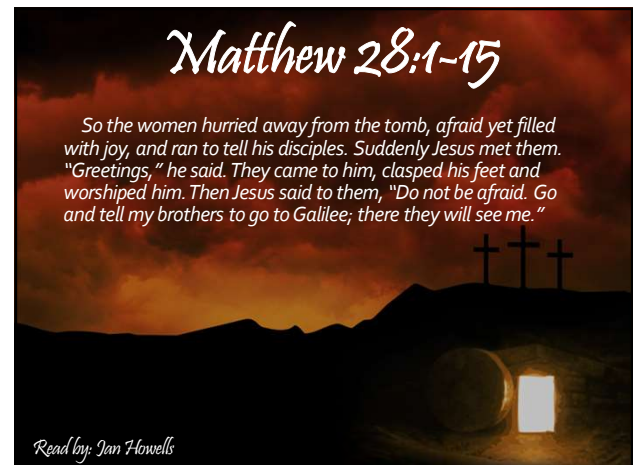
*The angel said to the women,*  
*"Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee.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



*Read by: Jan Howells*

## Matthew 28:1-15

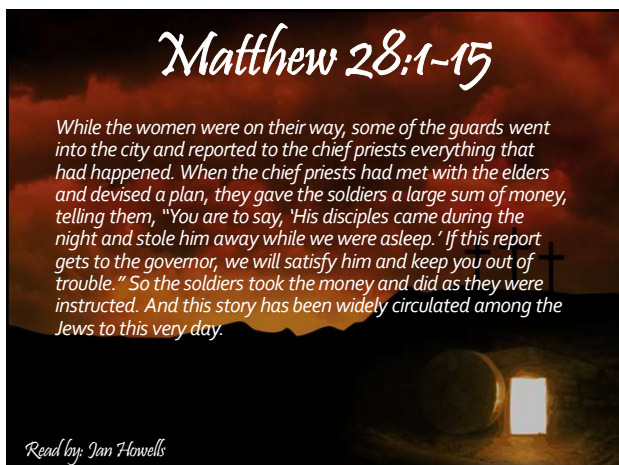
*So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."*



*Read by: Jan Howells*

## Matthew 28:1-15

*While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.' If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.*



*Read by: Jan Howells*

## Going before you... Liberia Style!



Going before you... Liberia Style!



Going before you... Liberia Style!



Going before you... Liberia Style!



Going before you... Liberia Style!



Going before you... Liberia Style!



**In everything about His life & ministry...  
Jesus was "going on before us!"**

**Mark 10:32**

*"They were on the road going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking on ahead of them; and they were amazed, and those who followed were fearful. And again He took the twelve aside and began to tell them what was going to happen to Him..."*

**In everything about His life & ministry...  
Jesus was "going on before us!"**

**Matthew 26:39**

"He went on a little farther and bowed with his face to the ground, praying, 'My Father! If it is possible, let this cup of suffering be taken away from me. Yet I want your will to be done, not mine.'"

**John 14:1-6**

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that go to prepare a place for you?"

**And I go before you** to prepare a place for you. Therefore, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going."

Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

**"And I go before you to prepare a place for you."**

These words are part of Jesus' final teaching to his disciples prior to His death.

**3+ years! ... He's been with them!**

Now He's talking about His death and that He's leaving them!

**Fear! Anxiety! Uncertainty!**

**"And I go before you to prepare a place for you."**

Jesus' **ongoing message** is not simply concern about "life after death"...

**He came to impart fullness of life!**

**John 10:10 –**

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."

**"And I go before you to prepare a place for you."**

**Life to the fullest!**

Life lived in God's presence... as God's children, abiding in God's house!

**STARTING NOW! ... in this life.**

He goes before you into each moment, and makes room for you, opens a space, and brings His abiding presence!

He has passed through everything we face in this life...

He has

**"gone before us"**

to prepare our way!

**7 that testify –**

1. **The soldiers – Experts in crucifixion; MIA! ... bribed to lie!** (Matthew 27:62-66)
1. **The seal – Violated!**
2. **The stone – Moved from its place**
3. **The tomb – Empty of His body**
4. **The graveclothes – Folded to the side**
5. **The angels – Testifying to His life**
6. **His hands & feet (scars)**
7. **His appearances!**

Adapted from David Jeremiah - The True Meaning of Easter and Seven Signs That Jesus Rose From the Dead  
<https://davidjeremiah.blog/the-true-meaning-of-easter-and-seven-signs-that-jesus-rose-from-the-dead>

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**The Resurrection Appearances in Order**

Order	Appearance	Location	90 days elapsed?	Time and Date	Reference
1.	Mary Magdalene crying by the tomb	Jerusalem	Yes	Early morning on Sunday	Mk 16:1-8, Lk 24:1-8
2.	The other women returning from the tomb	Jerusalem	Yes	Early morning on Sunday	Mk 16:9-11
3.	Two men and one woman on the road to Emmaus	Near Emmaus	Yes	Afternoon on Sunday	Mk 16:12-13, Lk 24:13-32
4.	Peter in Jerusalem	Jerusalem	N/A	Late afternoon on Sunday	Lk 24:33-35, 1 Cor 15:5
5.	To the "11" disciples and others in Jerusalem	Jerusalem	Yes	Evening on Sunday	Lk 24:36-49
6.	To 10 disciples without Thomas	Jerusalem	Yes	Evening on Sunday	Lk 24:50-52
7.	To the 11 disciples with Thomas	Jerusalem	Yes	Monday (3 days later)	Mk 16:7-8, Lk 24:36-49
8.	To 7 disciples by the Lake of Galilee	Galilee	Yes	A four weeks later	Lk 24:42-49
9.	To 11 disciples on a Mountain (see Commentary)	Galilee	Yes	Near the end of the 40 days	Mt 28:16-20, Mk 16:7-8, Lk 24:49
10.	To 500+ people at once	Galilee	N/A	Near the end of the 40 days	1 Cor 15:6
11.	To James	Jerusalem?	N/A	Near the end of the 40 days	1 Cor 15:7
12.	To the 11 disciples at Jesus' Ascension	Bethany	Yes	40 <sup>th</sup> Day	Mt 28:16-20, Mk 16:7-8, Lk 24:49
13.	To Paul on the road to Damascus	Near Damascus	Yes	About two years later	Act 9:1-9, 22:14, 26:16-18, 1 Cor 15:8

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**Matthew 28:7**

“Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, **He is going ahead of you** into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you.”

**Exodus 13:21**

“The Lord was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.”

**Deuteronomy 1:30**

“The Lord your God who goes before you will Himself fight on your behalf, just as He did for you in Egypt before your eyes...”

You go before me and follow me

YOU PLACE YOUR HAND OF BLESSING ON MY HEAD  
 PSALM 135:3

**Isaiah 41:10**  
 “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

**Jesus has passed through even the grave! He has “gone before us” and calls us to follow Him in all things!**

No matter what path we walk... **God goes before us!**  
 No matter what mountains we come up against... **God climbs them ahead of us!**  
 No matter the challenge or uncertainty we encounter... **God is in it with us!**  
Genesis 50:20

**He is the “Good Shepherd” that leads us in paths chosen and prepared to bring us into the fullness of life!**

**Psalm 23**  
 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
 He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
 He leads me beside the still waters.  
 He restores my soul.  
 He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:  
 For you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.  
 You anoint my head with oil.  
 My cup runs over.  
 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:  
 And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Just as our Liberian brothers & sisters went ahead of Me & Ted to “prepare our way”...  
**So too does God for every aspect of our lives!**

**DO NOT BE AFRAID OR DISCOURAGED FOR THE LORD WILL PERSONALLY GO AHEAD OF YOU. HE WILL BE WITH YOU. HE WILL NEITHER FAIL YOU NOR ABANDON YOU.**  
DEUTERONOMY 31:8

**So... remove the grave clothes!**  
**John 11:44**