**John 20:1-10**

***“It Takes A Living Savior To Make Sense Out of Living”***

Introduction:

1. Is there something in your life right now…*“Life makes no sense”?*
2. John 20:1-10 it takes a living Savior to make sense out of living.

Are you saying, *“Life makes no sense”*?

**I. IT TAKES A LIVING SAVIOR IN LIFE’S TRAGEDIES 20:1-2**

 ***A. It Takes A Living Savior When Life Is Dark 1***

**1.** (Matt. 27:63-64) The Jews told Pilate. Jesus said that He would rise in three days. To

 prevent the disciples from stealing the body in the night, the Roman officials seal the

 tomb and then placed guards at the tomb. This was to make the sepulcher as secure as

 possible. Pilate gave permission.

 **2.** *Stone* (too heavy to roll away) *seal* with a Roman seal and guarded that was the scene.

 I doubt if Mary and the women who came later even knew about the seal or the Roman

 guards. They were good Jews and would have stayed home of the Sabbath which was 6

 p.m. Friday to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

 **3.** *First day of the week…*This would be our Sunday. The resurrection is the reason and

the day we worship on Sunday. **Jesus Is Alive!** Every Sunday service is a reminder and

 celebration of the resurrection.

 **4.** *Mary Magdalene* with the other accounts there was also Mary the mother of James and

 Salome. This was before an earthquake.

 **5.** *It was dark…*

\*Physically…it was just before sunrise.

 \*Personally…It’s always dark when we don’t serve a living Savior. Has the lights

 gone out in your life? Life could never be the same. So great was her desire to be near

 the tomb that she went when it was still dark. She had no idea that Christ would be

 alive. He was gone forever!

 \*They were coming to anoint the body. They left home in the dark (Mk. 16:2 says, the

 sun was rising on their arrival. She turns the corner. The heavy stone slab was lifted

 out of its track *away from* means, it was a distance from the tomb lying flat on the

 ground. This was not so Jesus could get out, but so all could see in. The other women

 went on to the tomb **not Mary Magdalene!** The light is beginning to dawn, but not

 yet!

 ***B. It Takes A Living Savior When Life Is Desperate 2***

She comes to the wrong conclusion. It’s easy to do in the dark.

1. *Then she runs*…there is no time to waste. She is in a hurry without all the facts.
2. *Came to Peter and John* These were the leading apostles. James and John were brothers and the sons of *Salome.* It is believed that *Salome* was the sister, the mother of Jesus.
3. *They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulcher* To add insult to injury, she thought the Jewish leaders had stolen the body. The robbers must be apprehended immediately!!
4. Life is desperate without a living Savior. With any tragedy…get all the facts. Don’t jump to the wrong conclusions without investigating. Without a living Savior she jumps to the wrong conclusion. She spreads the wrong message. This message affects others. **By what you do and say is Jesus alive?**
5. *We know not where they have laid Him…*She wanted to go to a shrine and worship it. There is no life and no power. *We* is me and the other women. She included others in her false message. The other women heard what she needed to hear from two angels: *Go and tell the other disciples…Jesus is alive!* How often we are in a hurry. We rush off and we never hear the rest of the story: ***He is risen!******Jesus is Alive!!***

Are you saying, *“Life makes no sense”*?

**II. IT TAKES A LIVING SAVIOR IN LIFE’S TRIALS 20:3-7**

1. ***When Life Is Conflicting 3-4***
2. *They went forth.* They were going. They started instantly!
3. *They came to the sepulcher* John has them walking.
4. *They both ran together* Perhaps as they came within dash distance: *John did outrun Peter.* He was younger. Perhaps he was 18-22. Could I encourage you: run to the tomb…see for yourself!
5. ***When Life Is Confusing 5-7***

There are two approaches:

1. **Cautious 5**  John

**\****Stooped and glanced in and saw the linen clothes lying.* He did not go in.

**\***His thoughts: Either Mary was right (the body is gone) or he is frightened.

 **2. Courageous 6**  Peter

 \**Then came Peter* (following John)

 \*He doesn’t stop and look in…*He went into the sepulcher*

\**Seeth the linen clothes lying there…Seeth*  means to examine closely or notice

 carefully. He saw a turban, a body wrap. It wasn’t as if He took them off or

 someone else had removed the wrapping. **It was as if He evaporated!!** *Linen* was a

 word used to make sails for ships. These had fallen in folds (19:40). *He was buried*

 *as the manner of the Jews*…they wrapped or wound the linen. **It was in place!!**

 **\***Peter stood there bewildered by what he saw: *How would a robber take the body*

 *and leave the linen? How could Jesus have removed the strong linen wrapping?* It

 would be like a straight jacket, but more confining. *Peter…departed, wondering in*

 *himself at that which was come to pass (Lk 24:12).*

Are you saying: *“Life makes no sense”*?

**III. IT TAKES A LIVING SAVIOR IN LIFE’S TRIUMPHS 20:8-10**

1. ***Believed Without Seeing 8***
2. There are three different words for see in vss 5, 6, 8

\*v. 5 *saw* is *blepo* which is the ability to see.

\*v. 6 *seeth* is *theoreo* which is to view, contemplate, to discover with the primary reference is spectators at a religious festival.

\*v. 8 *saw* is *eiden* which is to perceive. His spiritual eyes were opened. The pieces fell together. He believed! The first to believe the resurrection was probably a teenager!

  **2.** There are three *sees* today as we approach the empty tomb. Which *see* are you?

1. ***Believed Without Searching 9-10***
2. (Ps. 16:10, 11…Ps. 110:1, 4…Ps. 118 22-24) had meant very little to them.
3. John believed and then the Word came alive! Isn’t that the way it works?! In v. 10 *they went home* no doubt sharing the news. John’s news: *I don’t know how it happened, but JESUS IS ALIVE!*
4. Faith is not a blind leap. Mary the mother of Jesus was staying at John’s. How thrilled she must have been. At the feast where Jesus turned water to wine: *Reveal yourself.* Jesus replied: *Mine hour has not yet come.* **His hour had come!**
5. As you go to the tomb with what *see* do you approach the tomb?

\* Have your eyes been opened? It takes a living Savior to make sense out of living.

\*It is never more evident than at a time of crises. You perhaps know the story of H.G. Spafford. He was a business man in Chicago. He was a sold out Christian. He suffered some serious financial reversals. He lost his business. He lost his home. He sent his wife and 4 daughters to France to stay with friends until things improved. In mid-ocean the French steamer collided with another ship and sank within 12 minutes. 230 people lost their lives. Spaffords’ 4 daughters were drowned. Mrs. Spafford was rescued. She wired from France: *Saved…Alone…What shall I do?* Mr. Spafford was nearly overcome with grief. He had lost his business, his property and 4 daughters were buried in the Ocean. His wife was struck with grief on the other side of the world. **At that time this living Lord became very real!**

He sat down and began to pen the words to a song that has comforted millions: *It Is Well With My Soul. When peace like a river attendeth my way…when sorrows like sea billows roll whatever my lot thou hast taught me to say, It is well…It is well with my soul.*

***It takes a living Savior to make sense out of living.***

***Do you know this living Savior?***