

## April Daily Bible reading

10	Leviticus 14, Prov 28, Mark 7: 1-23, 2 Corinthians 5: 11-21, Psalms 45: 10-17
11	Leviticus 15, Prov 29, Mark 7: 24-30, 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13, Psalms 46: 1-3
12	Leviticus 16, Prov 30, Mark 7: 31-37, 2 Corinthians 6: 14-18, Psalms 46: 4-7
13	Leviticus 17, Prov 31, Mark 8:1-21, 2 Corinthians 7: 1-16, Psalms 46: 8-11
14	Leviticus 18, Ecc 1, Mark 8: 22-26, 2 Corinthians 8: 1-15, Psalms 47: 1-4
15	Leviticus 19, Ecc 2, Mark 8: 27-33, 2 Corinthians 8: 16-24, Psalms 47: 5-9
16	Leviticus 20, Ecc 3, Mark 8: 34-38, 2 Corinthians 9: 1-5, Psalm 48: 1-8

### PRAYER

Father we praise you today for your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.  
For in Him we have a king in whom you have tenderness without any weakness  
you have strength without a gram of harshness  
you have amazing humility without any arrogance  
you have holiness of life without any arrogance  
you have holiness with unbending conviction yet with complete approachability.  
you have power without the slightest insensitivity  
you have passion without the slightest prejudice  
you have total integrity without rigidity  
never unthinking  
never a false word  
perfect moral glory and humility

absolute beauty  
absolute sovereignty and perfect submission  
a lion and a lamb  
a rock and a pearl  
meekness and majesty  
Father we humbly acknowledge that we struggle with a sense of balance in our character - we are not always what we need to be in every situation - but we come today in the name of the One who was always what He needed to be in every situation.  
Lord by the power of your Holy Spirit, through Your Word, please renew our character more and more in the image of Jesus Christ, the servant-King. So that we can be bold and humble, strong and meek.  
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.  
(based on a prayer by the late John Gerstener.)

**Sermons on line** — Just a reminder that a back catalogue of sermons are available online. New sermons are uploaded to our web site each Friday.

[www.scotschurch.com/sermons](http://www.scotschurch.com/sermons)

Sunday 11am, Sunday 5pm, Wednesday 1pm, and Thursday 1pm services.

St Stephen's Flemington Sunday service.

The Indonesian Sunday service can be found at [www.icc-melbourne.org/sermons](http://www.icc-melbourne.org/sermons)



### Contact Details

**Minister to the CBD:** Rev Richard O'Brien

**Mobile:** 0415978561

**Email:** richard@scotschurch.com

### How to contact us

Telephone information and after hours answering service: 9650 9903

Emergency contact: 0425 884 034

(only to be used if you have been unable to contact an Elder or Minister)

Email: admin@scotschurch.com Web: www.scotschurch.com

### Maintaining your free-will offerings

Please continue to provide your normal free-will offerings. They are more important than ever at this critical time. There are three ways you can do this:

- By electronic transfer to BSB **083 004**, Account number **630 327 585**
  - By cheque made out to The Scots' Church Melbourne and posted to 1/156 Collins Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000

# Engage

## 09 April 2020



# Newsletter

The Scots' Church Melbourne 5pm service

### Could the Disciples have made up the story Matthew 28:1-20

Leo Tolstoy, in his *A Confession*, asked: "My question - that which at the age of fifty brought

me to the verge of suicide - was the simplest of questions, lying in the soul of every man.....a question without an answer to which one cannot live. It was: "What will come of what I am doing today or tomorrow? What will come of my whole life? Why should I live, why wish for anything, or do anything?" It can also be expressed thus: Is there any meaning in my life that the inevitable death awaiting me does not destroy."

Then we have this famous statement by C.S. Lewis on the claims of Jesus in *Mere Christianity*: "A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic - on the level with a man who says he is a poached egg - or he would be the devil of hell. You take your choice.

Either this was, and is, the Son of God or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that choice open to us."

Lewis' words assumed, if the Biblical accounts of Jesus' words are accurate then they demand a response. But if they demand a response, then in our culture, isn't it important to show the reliability and truthfulness of the resurrection? Tonight we're concentrating on Matthew chapter 28. Matthew 28 teaches the crucified Jesus is Lord of all. And right at the heart of understanding Jesus is Lord, is the resurrection. From the beginning there were people who doubted it. There were people who argued there wasn't a resurrection and that there was some other explanation for the empty tomb. Matthew 28 puts forward some of the arguments for believing the resurrection of Jesus.

So tonight: *Could the disciples have made up the story?*

Welcome to engage - the 5pm service of The Scots' Church Melbourne.

Yours sincerely

Richard O'Brien.

P201 Tim Keller, *The Reason for God*, Double Day.

Richard Bauckham, *Jesus and the Eyewitnesses*, Erwin Lutzer 'Christ among the gods' is a good summary.

### US FOR THE FOLLOWING

*City Bible Study Tuesday - Bible Study and Prayer group 6:30- 8:30pm*

Contact Richard O'Brien for details—Richard@scotschurch.com

Thursday Lunchtime Series mp3s [Scots' online sermons](#)

# Could the disciples have made up the story? Matthew 28: 1 – 20

---

## Tolstoy, Lewis and Us

### 1. Evidence that demands a verdict

- Matthew is at pains to state that Jesus died a real death
  - Pretended to die?
    - Many were sure Jesus died
      - Pilate 27:65
      - Soldiers 27:65
      - Disciples 28:7
      - Chief priest 27:62
      - Nicodemus Jn 19:39
      - Joseph of Arimathea 27:57-60
      - Women 28:1-10
- Remarkable happenings
  - Darkness 27:45
  - Earthquake 27:51
  - Curtain 27:51
  - Earthquake 28:2
- The tomb was empty
  - The women and the angel 28:2
    - Dark? Dawn 28:1
  - Disciples stole the body? 28:13
  - Jews or Romans stole the body? 28:13
- Jesus was seen alive
  - Women 28:1

- The evidence is persuasive
  - Frank Morrison *Who moved the Stone*
  - Josh McDowall - *Evidence that demands a verdict, More evidence that demands a verdict, More than a Carpenter.*

### 2. Implications of this evidence?

- Christianity has its basis in eyewitness testimony not opinion
- It was the resurrection that caused every other thing about Jesus to be remembered
  - Messiah – Matthew 1 – 4
  - Teaching – Matthew 5-7
  - Second coming – Matthew 24-25
- The resurrection shows that this world matters

### 3. The resurrection demands a verdict

- Those who refused to believe
  - Guards 28:4, 11 - 15
  - Chief priests 28:11-12
  - Today
- Those who believed
  - Make it known
- Who do you identify with?