

Matthew 28:1-8: Who Do You Seek!

Humanity seeks three things in general:

Power (the ability to influence people or events).

Pleasure (satisfying natural drives to achieve happiness and enjoyment).

Popularity (liking, attraction, dominance and superiority).

The pursuit of such activates and anticipates reward, which in itself makes us feel good. Research suggests that we don't just derive happiness from attaining, receiving, or consuming the object of our desires, we also do so from anticipating it i.e. it's not just eating the cake that makes us happy but also staring at it through the Bakery display.

Often, the things we chase don't bring us what we want. Research has shown that we are terrible at predicting what will or will not make us happy and we often overestimate the amount of happiness something will bring us.

When we finally get what we want—power, pleasure and popularity in whatever form—we often find that we are not as happy as we thought we would be. Our anticipatory joy itself deceives us. When we don't find the joy we were expecting, we move on to the next chase. In some cases, the chase runs our lives. However, it also often comes at a high cost: exhaustion, depression and health problems.

The women were seeking no one else but Jesus, nothing else. Theirs was an “I want Jesus” attitude. While others woke up seeking their own safety in fear, others opening their business, others reporting for work, going for exercise...

I. Power.

Philippians 3:10...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

1 Corinthians 15:55-57 – O Death, where is your sting? O hades, where is your victory? The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 2:3-5 - I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

The one “power” humanity has always been looking for is the power over death.

"The resurrection power is the fullness of His power. It is more than enough for the greatness of His plan and purpose for your life. It is more than enough to re-position you for supernatural greatness, impact and exploits."

In resurrection power we're regenerated, filled with His Spirit, transformed and waiting to be glorified.

II. Pleasure.

Pleasure eases mental and physical tensions.

Matthew 28:9 - *And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him.*

Psalms 16:10-11 - *For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

1 Chronicles 16:10 – *Glory in His holy name, let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the LORD*

Philippians 4:4 – *Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice.*

"I do not mean that our happiness is the highest good. I mean that pursuing [and finding God] will always result in our greatest happiness in the end."

III. Popularity.

Mark 10:45 - *"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."*

Galatians 3:26 - *For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.*

Galatians 2:20 – *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

Jesus Christ is the most popular and famous name. We have the most popular and famous Person living in us and that makes us popular and famous already.