



Words from the Cross

**Two Postscripts**

# Three Unexpected Events and an unexpected conversion

## 1. Matt 27:51-54

### A. Supernatural events

- 1) A Torn Curtain
- 2) Rocks Split
- 3) Empty Tombs

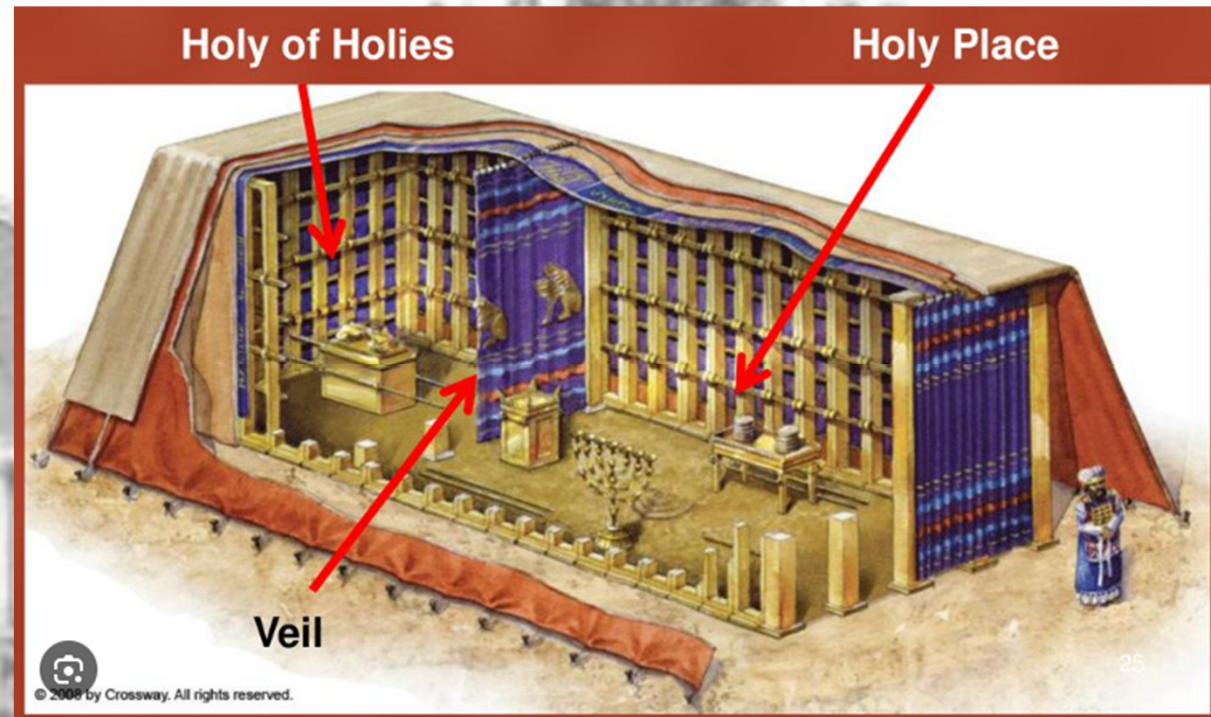
### B. Unexpected conversion of a Roman Centurian



# Three unexpected events

## 1. A torn curtain

- A. Temple/tabernacle history
- B. Symbolic meaning – Heb 10:19-22a
- C. Old form of worship was passing away – Priestly intercession, animal sacrifices for atonement for sin, ceremonial cleansing to enter into God's presence
- D. God's new temple, Jesus, had arrived – John 2:20-21
- E. Access to God, acceptance with God, and true worship was now located in Christ – John 14:6



# Three unexpected events

## 2. Rocks split

- A. God's use of His creation to recognize the momentous nature of what had just happened
- B. God in Christ had become the sin-bearer for a world of guilty, judgment-deserving men and women

## 3. Empty Tombs

- A. Earthquake caused tombs to open, after the resurrection, bodies of dead holy people were raised to life!
- B. BB Warfield – Christianity is unembarrassed supernaturalism
- C. Calvin quote pg 118 – setting the captives free
- D. The dead most likely rose with Christ, as he is the first fruit
- E. Foretoken of the Last Day

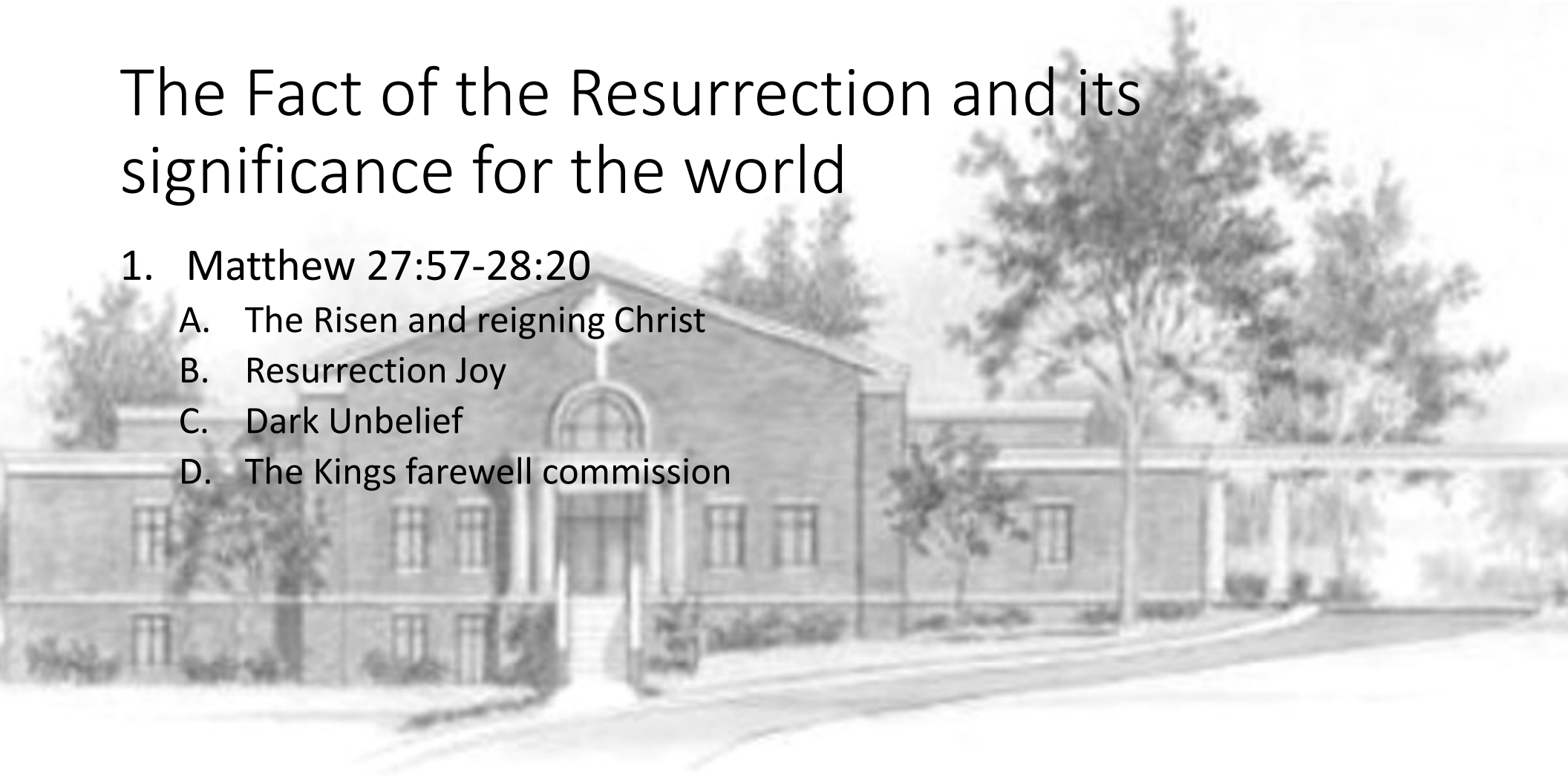
# An expected conversion – first fruits

## 1. Profession by Roman Centurion

- A. What they witnessed terrified them
- B. They heard Jesus' words and saw what happened at his death
- C. An uncovenanted Gentile was the first to testify to Jesus' divine identity after his death
- D. Anticipates the post-resurrection commission to go and make disciples of ALL nations.

# The Fact of the Resurrection and its significance for the world

1. Matthew 27:57-28:20
  - A. The Risen and reigning Christ
  - B. Resurrection Joy
  - C. Dark Unbelief
  - D. The Kings farewell commission



# The Risen and Reigning Christ

1. Darkest and grandest event in human history
2. Good Friday!
3. Prophecy fulfilled – Acts 13:35/Ps 16
4. Centrality of the resurrection – Rom 4:25/1 Cor 15:17-20
5. Public seal and vindication of his atoning work on the cross to secure our justification with God.
6. Acts 2:24 Death could not hold him
7. Christ is risen and reigning at God's right hand for His glory and our benefit.

# Resurrection Joy

1. Historical Fact of resurrection recorded in Matthew's gospel
  - A. Angel's from beginning to end – heavenly punctuations
  - B. Except when bearing God's wrath for our sin – darkness came over all the land
  - C. At the resurrection we again see the external world breaks into this present world – “He is not here for he has risen as he said”
  - D. JOY! Dashed hopes were replaced with evangelical joy.

# Dark Unbelief



1. Jewish leaders were wicked in suppressing the truth of the resurrection
2. Today's progressive churches teach false narratives of Jesus
  - A. "A good man with a kindly ethic" (an ethic that unsurprisingly changes with the times)
  - B. Still a refusal to bend the knee and heart before God's incarnate, crucified, risen, ascended and reigning Son.

# The Kings farewell commission

1. Some doubted?
2. Speaking on another mountain
  - A. Sermon on the mount
  - B. Sinai
  - C. Carmel
  - D. Mount of transfiguration
3. 5 aspects of the regal commission
  - A. An Authoritative Commission – all authority in heaven and on earth given to Jesus
  - B. A Universal Commission – fulfilling the promise to Abraham
  - C. An Ecclesial (relating to the Church) Commission – all believers are baptized as a sign and initiated into the fellowship of the Church
  - D. A Teaching Commission – Make disciples by the preaching of the word
  - E. A Reassuring Commission - “I am with you until the end of the age”

# Conclusion

1. Cross was not the final goal of the incarnation of the Son of God
2. Final Goals
  - A. Triumph of his resurrection
  - B. Glory of his ascension
  - C. Grace of his present high priestly care at God's right hand for his people
  - D. His coming again in glory at the end of history
  - E. His ultimate exaltation as the firstborn of many brothers in the new creation
3. Hamilton Quote pg 128
4. For God's glory and our salvation. Praise be to God for the cross of Christ.

# Discussion/Questions

