

The Easter Effect
Matthew 28:1-15
April 1, 2018

The Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus forever changed the landscape of human history. There is not a country, on earth, left untouched in some way by the Incarnation and Passion of Jesus. In every culture, around the world, the Church gathers on Easter to celebrate the Resurrection. You may *ignore* it or even try to *deny* it, but no one will *escape* its impact on their life or our world. Today, we explore Matthew's account of Christ's glorious Resurrection and the *Easter Effect*. How has the Resurrection shaped your life?

1st Easter's Declaration (1-6b) "*He is Risen...*"

The chorus of the Church

2nd Easter's Decree (6c) "*Come, see the place...*"

The call to every Seeker

3rd Easter's Discovery (6a) "*He is not here...*"

The confession of the Saint

4th Easter's Delight (9) "*So they came...and worshipped Him*"

The celebration of the redeemed

5th Easter's Dialogue (7-8) "*Go quickly and tell...He is risen*"

The commitment of His Children

6th Easter's Dynamic (10; 20) "*Do not be afraid...Lo I am with you always*"

The confirmation for the witness

7th Easter's Decision (11-15) "*So they took the money...*"

The choice is inescapable

Application to our life: Easter has shaped the world. Has it shaped your life? God in Christ is radically and passionately pursuing a love relationship with you. Have you experienced the power of the Resurrection? Is your life a witness of that transformational power? Remember, according to God's Word today is the appointed day of decision. Allow the *Easter Effect* to change your life today and for all eternity!