

Scripture Reading: Mark 16

Singing: 391:1-4 – 378:1-3 – 175:1-4 – 284:1-3

THE ANGEL'S CHARGE TO THE WOMEN

I. They are to share the glad tidings II. They are to speak especially to Peter

I. THE ANGEL'S CHARGE IS THAT THE WOMEN ARE TO SHARE THE GLAD TIDINGS

A. God involved the angels in all the great redemptive events of Jesus Christ

B. On Easter Day they were employed to *be the first preachers*

1. This message would have rejoiced their own soul

2. They were sent forth to minister to 'heirs of salvation' (Heb. 1:14)

a. Who are they? How would you know you are one of them?

- not by insider knowledge of the Book of life

- but by inside knowledge of the Power of life

C. First charge is to bring glad tidings to depressed and fearful women

1. Why were these women so affrighted?

2. How did they react to this incredibly sweet message of Easter?

a. they displayed a mixture of fear and gladness

b. this mixture of emotions is the experience of each sinner in Christ's saving hand

D. Second charge is *instruct the women to be carriers of glad tidings*

1. All of God's children still are under this charge

a. Ps. 66; 34; 130 – 1 Thess. 5:14

II. THE ANGEL CHARGED THEM ESPECIALLY TO ADDRESS PETER

A. Why is Mark the only to note this specific instruction?

1. Because Peter was Mark's source of information

2. Because Peter would have never forgotten these words

B. Why was Peter singled out by the Lord Jesus?

1. Of all, Peter knew best why the Lord charged these words to be said

a. the last three days were Peter's worst days

- consider his own thoughts

- consider how Satan would have assaulted him about what he said: *but he began to curse and to swear, saying, I know not this man oh whom ye speak!* (Mark 14:71)

b. to his own feelings he was hanging on a silk thread above hell

B. How remarkable is the angel's charge: ***and Peter***

1. It is the Risen Savior's charge given the angels to be *handed to Peter*
 a. this was a word of *love – hope – faithfulness of the King*

2. Hard to imagine what Peter must have felt hearing ***and Peter***

Takeaway question: *Is this Easter message for 'Peter only?'*

A. The angel didn't tell women to bring this Easter message to the world

B. Instead they had to speak to Jesus' disciples: *to them it still speaks!*

1. God's servants are still commissioned to *bring these words* to a certain address: ***to the disciples and Peter***

And Peter ...

**The Savior calls; may heavy hearts attend the heavenly sounds;
 May doubting souls dismiss their fear, as solid hope abounds.**

**For every thirsting, longing heart, here streams of blessing flow;
 And life, and health, and bliss impart, to banish mortal woe.**

**Dear Savior, draw reluctant hearts; to Thee let sinners fly,
 And seek the bliss Thy love imparts, and take and never die.**

**May sinners hear Thy mercy's voice, Thy gracious word receive,
 May hearts be turned to heavenly joys, enabled to believe.**