

## **Interview 4**

**DJ**

I'm on location just outside of Jerusalem where the energy has been building for the past few hours as word gets out that Jesus is no longer in the tomb. There seems to be great chaos and confusion circulating as it appears that there is more speculation than facts surrounding the whereabouts of Jesus' body.

I'm trying to locate one of the individuals I interviewed previously to see if I can get some answers... Wait ... [someone whispers in his ears] ... Okay, I have information that Matthew is nearby, so we will break for a commercial and come back when we locate Matthew and are confident in the security.

We'll be right back...

**DJ**

We are back hiding in a back room. We took extraordinary measures to hide our equipment and make sure no one was following us. We have people outside to watch for anything that would be disruptive to our work.

We are with Matthew who made no guarantee that he will stay long as he awaits word that the other disciples have made their way to the designated meeting place. As soon as he gets word that everyone is accounted for, then he must leave to join them.

[he turns to Matthew]

At this time, what do you know about the tomb being empty?

**Matthew**

[noticeably anxious and uncomfortable]

That's what they are saying. I spoke with one of the women who went to the tomb and she confirmed that it was empty.

**DJ**

Can you identify the woman?

**Matthew**

It was his mother. She was with Mary Magdalene and I believe the other was Anna when they went to the tomb .

**DJ**

Can you tell us what they found?

**Matthew**

The rock was rolled back, leaving the tomb open. They went in and found nothing but the garments he was buried in neatly folded. There was no sign of a struggle. There was no footprints or any sign of how or who rolled back the stone.

**DJ**

Did they say anything about seeing Jesus or if they spoke to him?

**Matthew**

[with a guarded tone of excitement]

At this time I can only say that Mary has spoken to Jesus... I am not clear as to what was said, or the condition of Jesus, but she definitely spoke with Jesus. She made it very clear that we are to gather in the designated location and it will be made clear to us then.

**DJ**

So is it your understanding that Jesus is alive?

**Matthew**

I can't say for sure, but I know the women could not have rolled that stone open. And the Roman soldiers are speaking out very clearly that no one has been anywhere near the tomb before the women were allowed to go there. You can speculate all you want, but all I know is that Mary made it clear that the answer will come once we all get together.

**DJ**

In all due respect, do you think there is any possibility that she was speaking from a grieving heart more than actual experience?

**Matthew**

[smiles and shakes his head]

You obviously don't know Mary. She was not a woman of many words, but when she spoke, we all learned to listen. She would never say something if it wasn't true. She would tell us about being pregnant with Jesus and how it all came about, and we would all be blown away at all that her and Joseph went through. And we could see in Jesus' eyes the compassion as she spoke that every word she was telling us was true. This was not a grieving mother that was speaking to me, this was a woman who God chose to bring the world our Messiah.

**DJ**

So are you suggesting that Jesus has risen as he said he would?

**Matthew**

I'm starting to think that we should have listened more to him when he spoke about the resurrection instead of focusing on his talking about his death.

**DJ**

If he has risen, do you believe that his plan is to take over the world?

**Matthew**

No ... that was never his message. He told us that people focus on this world which is so temporary when they should focus on God's kingdom which is eternal. I mean, think about it. If he wanted to take over the world, he sure had a lousy approach to doing so. He never got into the politics. He never gave much time to worldly events. He was all about individuals and how we all need to prepare for the eternal kingdom of God.

**DJ**

If you do see Jesus again, what will you say to him?

**Matthew**

I will ask him to forgive me for my behavior these past few days. Then I will stop speaking and listen to what he has to say and do whatever he asks me to do.

**DJ**

What if this all turns out to be a hoax?

**Matthew**

Have you come across any suggestion that it could be?

**DJ**

Will no, but there is a lot of confusion right now. But it is a possibility.

**Matthew**

Go speak to the Romans. They are going out of there way in stating that there was no way anyone got to the tomb before those women. Speak to the religious leaders. They have every reason to disprove any suggestion of a resurrection, yet they seem to be very quiet today.

*At that moment a voice is heard at the entrance, "Matthew, it's time to go. The others have arrived."*

Sorry, I've got to go. Please don't follow me.

**DJ**

Can we speak again after this is all over?

**Matthew**

I hope so ... [as he quickly leaves the building]