

EASTER 2008

## You Can't Keep a Good Man Down

Acts 2:22-28

### Two Very Important Facts About Jesus:

- The death of Jesus Christ wasn't an unanticipated tragedy, but God's perfect plan!
- While Jesus was crucified, He also rose from the dead!!

*"However, God released him from the horrors of death and raised him back to life again, for death could not keep him in its grip."*  
Acts 2:24b

### KEY WORDS:

*"However, God..."*

### THREE THINGS THAT COULD NOT KEEP JESUS DOWN!

#### I. The doubters couldn't keep Jesus down.

#### II. Death couldn't keep Him down.

*"The next day—on the first day of the Passover ceremonies—the leading priests and Pharisees went to see Pilate. They told him, "Sir, we remember what that deceiver once said while he was still alive: 'After three days I will be raised from the dead.' So we request that you seal the tomb until the third day. This will prevent his disciples from coming and stealing his body and then telling everyone he came back to life! If that happens, we'll be worse off than we were at first." Pilate replied, "Take guards and secure it the best you can." So they sealed the tomb and posted guards to protect it."*

Matthew 27:62-66 (NLT)

#### III. The devil could not keep Him down.

#### The Church Grew Because...

1. They were filled with the Holy Spirit.
2. They had a new attitude/mindset.
  - a. A new attitude about life.
  - b. A new attitude about death.
  - c. A new attitude about God.
  - d. A new attitude about themselves

*"Peter's words convicted them deeply, and they said to him and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter replied, "Each of you must turn from your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is to you and to your children, and even to the Gentiles—all who have been called by the Lord our God." Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this generation that has gone astray!"*

Acts 2:37-40 (NLT)