

## **Matthew 28:1-10<sup>viii</sup>**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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### <sup>viii</sup> **About the Alternate Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10**

Matthew's resurrection narrative describes the discovery of the empty tomb by Mary Magdalene and the other Mary and the drama of an earthquake and an angel who rolls back the stone and sits upon it—a sign that the tomb is permanently open so they can enter and discover that Jesus is not there. The angel allays their fear and then sends them to announce the good news of the resurrection to the disciples. The risen Jesus himself surprises them on their way back and personally gives them the same commission that the angel did to go to the disciples with the easter message.