



## Midweek Meditation



*"So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard... and behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it."*

*Matthew 27:66; 28:2*

God is the master of turning the devil's tools and weapons back on himself. As David used Goliath's own sword to kill his enemy, so God used the stone's seal and guards to thwart our enemy. Ephraim of Syria, a Christian theologian of the 4<sup>th</sup> Century, points out that had the chief priests and Pharisees left Jesus' tomb unsealed and unguarded, this would have given some credibility to their lie that Jesus' disciples stole His body to make it seem as though He was raised from the dead. How glorious, therefore, that they craftily sealed the tomb, guarding it well. Yet we believe in Jesus' resurrection, not because there is no other plausible explanation. This is our faith, and faith needs no explanation. The guards felt the earthquake and saw the angel roll back the stone, yet they did not believe. Faith is a gift of God. We believe the written record of Scripture by His grace and the working of the Holy Spirit.

*They sealed You up within the tomb, and set guards, that Your resurrection might be believed among those who deny You...If they had neglected You and left You and gone after they buried You, there would have been room to lie and say that the disciples stole You. Ephraim Syrus*

*Vain the stone, the watch, the seal, Christ hath burst the gates of hell.  
Death in vain forbids His rise; Christ has opened paradise. Amen!*