

Easter Sunday

Come and See!

Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20

<p>Normally verse-by-verse, Palm Sunday and Easter - all four gospel accounts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Matthew 28 - Page 490 ● Mark 16 - Page 501 ● Luke 24 - Page 520 ● John 20 - Page 533 	<p>What is Easter?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bunnies, chocolate, eggs, Spring? ● symbols of new life, rebirth after Winter (which we didn't get!) <p>Easter - Ishtar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ancient Babylonian religion ● our culture calls this time of year ● Coincides with Passover ● Church celebrates the death & resurrection of Jesus
<p>The full story: <u>cross & tomb</u> <u>His death & resurrection</u></p> <p>Cross - symbol of death (electric chair) Only half the story - <u>not the end</u></p> <p>It's <u>resurrection</u>, not resuscitation</p> <p>alive again after being totally dead More alive than before</p> <p><i>Swoon argument - doesn't take the cross into account</i></p>	<p>Beaten - flagellum enough to kill a man</p> <p>Psalm 22:6a - But I am a worm, and no man;</p> <p>Roman guards - guard or death</p> <p><i>Maybe some of our judges need that these days</i></p> <p>Why was Jesus crucified?</p>
<p>Back to the beginning - the Garden</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tree of Life - trust God and live ● Knowledge of good & evil - try to figure it out yourself, try to be God, and die - to know sin <p>Cast out, but the savior <u>promised</u></p>	<p>Fast forward to Egypt, Passover</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● God's people in slavery under a tyrant ● Moses, 10 plagues, Pharaoh hardens himself ● 10th plague - firstborn die ● Sacrifice lamb, blood on doorposts ● Anyone can be saved if they just trust God's word ● even Pharaoh

<p>Saved from what? <i>Breaking God's Word, rebelling</i> Sin - missing the mark, even trying Transgression - on purpose</p> <p>Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.</p>	<p>Who needs to be saved? Everyone and anyone</p> <p>Romans 3:23 - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,</p> <p>Sin is a work, death is the wage, Salvation is a gift, life is the result</p>
<p>Not just outward appearance, the thoughts and intents of your heart</p> <p><i>Lust, adultery</i> <i>Broken one, broken them all</i></p>	<p>John 3:16-17 - "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.</p>
<p>[Pray]</p> <p>Matthew 28:1-10 (Page 490)</p> <p>First day of the week, Sunday! <i>This is why the church meets</i></p> <p>Imagine this angel... Do we really hear what the Bible is saying? Do we put it in another box?</p> <p><u>These things happened</u></p> <p><i>Might make you look at the news and some conspiracy theories a little different</i></p> <p>Big old Roman guards, shook, fell as dead</p>	<p>An angel proclaims Jesus' birth and resurrection (and final return)</p> <p>So why not tell everyone with angels? God likes to use us - we are his workmanship created for that</p> <p>See where He lay...past tense He was there, not anymore!</p> <p>This wasn't an <u>assumption</u> clear evidence, clear other worldly message</p> <p><i>(don't believe every angel, Bible is clear)</i></p>

<p>This culture, not telling a woman first! But God tells them first!</p> <p><i>Contrast to the Garden - Eve sinned first</i></p> <p>Women heartbroken over their Lord being gone and wanted to be near <u>even if he was just a body in a tomb</u></p>	<p>But C'mon Men! Lead spiritually!</p> <p>The proof of the resurrection? Easy!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He's not there! • The angel says so • Jesus is right around the corner <p>Do you see?</p>
<p>Mark 16:1-8 (Page 501)</p> <p>Spices to anoint - typical burial process,</p> <p><u>Late though!</u> had to get off the cross quickly before sundown and sabbath</p> <p><i>Third day - Today, Tomorrow, Third Day</i></p> <p>Remember the spices by the wise men? Gold - royalty, kingship Frankincense - divinity, priesthood Myrrh - suffering, death - burial spice</p>	<p>Alarmed? - thrown into terror, terrify</p> <p>Sun is now up, worried all weekend for nothing!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They weren't expecting what they were coming to • They were expecting a dead, mutilated, neglected body <p>Wanted to minister to Jesus' dead body But He'd minister to them!</p>
<p>The message? HE IS RISEN</p> <p><i>Jesus compared death to sleep</i></p> <p>He was crucified - works of sin are finished Because penalty paid, wages received</p>	<p>Nobody's truly good, only God!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>God doesn't expect you to be what you can't on your own (he knows you're dust)</i> • <i>So good He'll take care of your bad</i>
<p>See the place where they laid him</p> <p><u>Look for yourself!</u> Examine the evidence. <u>He's not there</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Many religions mummify their leaders so you can come and look</i> • <i>Atheists praise their dead saints, too</i> 	<p>The mission? Go and tell all the disciples - including Peter</p> <p>(Mark's gospel likely Peter's account through John Mark)</p> <p>No time to waste, mourning is over</p>

<p>:9-14</p> <p>Jesus appeared to <u>all</u> the disciples</p> <p>1 Cor 15:3-8 The 12, over 500 at once, even Paul</p> <p>These are the <u>gospels</u> (good news) eyewitness accounts of an alive Jesus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not hearsay, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they didn't even expect it or believe it • They were afraid! Movement over, leader dead, everyone against them • They didn't even believe at first • Jesus showed up and rebuked them <p>Afraid, unbelieving pre resurrection To bold and dying for their faith after</p> <p><i>My testimony - looking back, him there all along - Do you see?</i></p>
<p>Luke 24:1-4 (Page 520)</p> <p>Huge stone. Tamper-proof sealed by the <u>government</u>.</p> <p>Greatly perplexed! "Entirely at a loss"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No clue what was going on • No clue what to do 	<p>:5-8</p> <p>Strong words: Why do you seek the <u>living</u> among the <u>dead</u>?</p> <p><u>Are you looking to find life in dead things?</u></p> <p>Dumpster diving through life?</p>
<p>Things that kill - have vain life, imitation life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting drunk, high • Relationships, dating apps • Success, achievement, riches • Popularity, approval • gambling, risk taking • Healthy living, eating <p>Deep down you <u>know</u> it's not life, empty (Solomon - all is vanity, vapor)</p> <p>You keep trying more and more to try and find life <u>But you're not finding it, instead you're digging yourself deeper</u> <i>Drugs in the beginning - need more, worse</i></p>	<p>Or Maybe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trying to be a good person • Searching for truth philosophy, science • Even religion or tradition or church <p><u>But still no life.</u></p> <p><i>Paul, wrote NT, described himself that way</i> <i>Seeing good, knowing good, wanting good,</i> <i>But not able to do it, live it, find it for himself</i></p> <p>The answer is not <u>religion</u> - our attempt at reaching God</p> <p>That's the only answer the world gives - just in different wrapper, even false Christs</p>

<p>And so the angel says, Jesus is alive! Remember He told you?</p> <p><u>He's the life you're looking for.</u></p>	<p>What a relief God repeats himself! <i>Have kids?</i> <u>Do you see?</u> He's patient, He's kind <u>His kindness leads us to repentance</u></p>
<p>:9-12</p> <p>Words seem like idle tales - nonsense</p> <p>so numb, so hard after all that happened, all their hopes crushed</p> <p>Jesus their political savior - dead a week later</p> <p>But Peter...his heart is softer - perhaps because of his awful night betraying Jesus</p> <p>Marveling to himself He's beginning to believe, excited, hopeful</p>	<p>Have you been muttering to yourself lately?</p> <p><i>How is it like this? How am I like this? Is this really God? Where is God? What is going on in my life? Is what everything I've thought to be real, fake? What's the right way?</i></p> <p>Isaiah 30:21 - Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it,"</p> <p>John 14:6 - Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."</p>
<p>John 20:1-10 (Page 533)</p> <p>They came as early as possible as soon as the Sabbath was over. <i>What a weekend</i></p> <p>Can you hear the distress in her voice when they can't find him?</p> <p><i>A little more clarity, they saw the angel but not until dawn</i></p> <p>Do you feel like you're in the dark? Do you need light?</p>	<p>John 8:12 - Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life."</p> <p>:11-14</p> <p>Why are you weeping?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jesus knew, He was trying to show her that it was the wrong response to the evidence! ● Not grief over death, but joy over life <p>He wasn't dead and now gone, too. A body to mourn over.</p> <p>He was alive and well!</p>

:15-18

Whom are you seeking?

Having been around him, she should have known better that he wouldn't be there

But he knew they'd look there and he hung around for a bit

Where are we expecting to find God?

- Do we think He's gone?
- Left us?
- Dead and not capable of helping?
- Not caring that we're broken & upset?

Those things are not the truth. If we just look up and see Him standing there.

*I love that she thinks he's the gardener
Something sweet to study there with the garden of eden, gethsemane and here*

**God is the God of life,
He is the living God
His people are alive, too**

Matthew 22:31-32 - "But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, 'I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? **God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.**"

Mt. 27:52

His resurrection was so powerful other folks came out of the grave too

To be a Christian means to be born again, made completely new.

Resurrected in spirit now, body later

2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Everything hangs on Jesus' resurrection

- All scripture
- Everything Jesus said and did
- Everything every believer has hoped for in all of history
- Everything to come - the end of the world, heaven and hell, the new heavens and new earth

1 Corinthians 15:12-19 - Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? **But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty.** Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, **because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ,** whom He did not raise up--if in fact the dead do not rise. For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. **And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!** Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

Jesus being alive means your sins are forgiven!

Do you see? Resurrection is the evidence what's after death

Jesus rose again to never die again.

God's resurrection is to eternal life.
Born again to never spiritually die again

That was the bigger death in the garden - spiritual death

10:10 people die

Just don't know what

Hebrews 9:26c-28 - He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. **And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,** so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

But, Jesus is alive and offers you His life

John 10:9-11 - "I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. **I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.**

Matthew 7:21-23 - "**Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord..And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you;** depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!"

Do you know the risen Jesus?

Revelation 20:5-6 - But the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection. **Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power,** but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.

All the dead will stand in line for judgment
One for works of sin - eternal death
One for faith in Jesus' work - eternal life

Hell is not a party.

It is not ruled by Satan.
It is eternal separation from God. Eternal punishment for sin. Weeping, gnashing of teeth. Knowing you could have easily not gone there but you put yourself there.

It was not designed for you

Matthew 25:41 - "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the **everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:**

Hebrews 11:6 - **But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**

Romans 10:8-13, 17 - **...if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." **So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

Do you hear the living God calling out to you? Believe.

Come and see. Come and live.

