

Behold: His Resurrection

Matthew 27:62 – 28:7

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And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. (Isaiah 53:9)

Jesus is the fulfillment of everything the Old Testament was pointing toward.

⁶² *The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³ and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' ⁶⁴ Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." ⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, "You have a guard^[o] of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." ⁶⁶ So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard. (Matthew 27:62-66)*

¹ *Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ² 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 28:1-2)*

⁵ *But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." (Matthew 28:5-7)*

The resurrection is everything to Christianity.

The resurrection affirms with power that Jesus is the Son of God.

¹¹ *But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. (John 20:11-12)*

Jesus appears to the sorrowful.

¹⁵ *Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). (John 20:15-16)*

You can have comfort and peace but He wants to be your object of hope.

Jesus appears to the fearful.

¹⁹ *On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. (John 20:19-20)*

²⁴ *Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. (John 20:24)*

Jesus appears to the doubtful.

²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you."²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe."²⁸ Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"²⁹ Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:26-29)

Jesus appears to the confused.

²⁵ "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. (Luke 24:25-27)

Jesus appears to the discouraged.

"The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" (Luke 24:34)

Jesus appears to the defiant.

⁶ Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. (1 Corinthians 15:6-7)

The resurrection gives joy (to sorrowful), courage (to fearful), faith (to doubtful), truth (to the confused), forgiveness (to the discouraged) and grace (to the defiant).

Big Idea: Behold, Jesus has risen to give joy, courage, faith, truth, forgiveness & grace.

STUDY GUIDE QUESTIONS:

- How would you respond to the following statement: "I'm a follower of Jesus but I don't believe Jesus rose from the dead"?
- Why is the resurrection so important for Christians?
- How does the truth of the resurrection fit into the presentation of the gospel?
- To which of the "appearances" can you best relate: sorrowful, fearful, doubtful, confused, discouraged, defiant?
- How does this message or passage bring comfort, conviction or correction in your life?
- How should this passage or message reshape your thoughts, attitudes, emotions, motivations, words and actions?
- What question wasn't addressed that you think your small group should discuss?