

Easter

The Empty Tomb		Condemned, killed, and came back
<i>Intro: "Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance. The only thing it cannot be is moderately important." C.S. Lewis</i>	<i>Review: Easter is the greatest holiday in the Christian faith. It is the day that Jesus settled that He truly was God by His conquest over death.</i>	<i>Today: With this framework in mind, we will look at the death and resurrection of Christ. "If the tomb is empty, how will you live?"</i>
<i>We will look at a number of scriptures of the different perspectives of the Easter story. They will be read with each point.</i>		
1. The Crucifixion		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain first what a crucifixion is both historically and medically 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew 27:33-51 - points of note: the dividing of the garments, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken me", the veil torn in two. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Psalm 22:6-8, 12-18 (written c. 1000 BC) Isaiah 52:13-15, 53:1-12 		
2. The Burial		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When one was crucified, a Roman execution, a Jew would be considered disgraced. Thus he would be buried with the lowest. 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew 27:57-60 - the story is known. Yet consider that Joseph of Arimathea, who according to Luke was a member of the Sanhedrin, offered up his personal tomb 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recall Is. 53:9 and the fulfillment of this prophecy 		
3. The Resurrection		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matt. 27:62-65, 28:1-7 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Even this was foretold Psalm 16:10 (noted by both Peter and Paul that this applied to Jesus, and not David who's flesh clearly did decay) 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further proof of the empty tomb 1 Cor. 15:1-8 		
<i>Conclusion: 1 Cor. 15:14,17 So ask yourself, is the tomb empty? Would the followers of Jesus really risk everything, even their lives, if it weren't?</i>		

References

Isaiah 53:9 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.

Psalms 16:10 For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.

1 Corinthians 15:1-8 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, **2** and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, **4** that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, **5** and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. **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. **8** Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

1 Corinthians 15:14,17 **14** And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain....**17** And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins