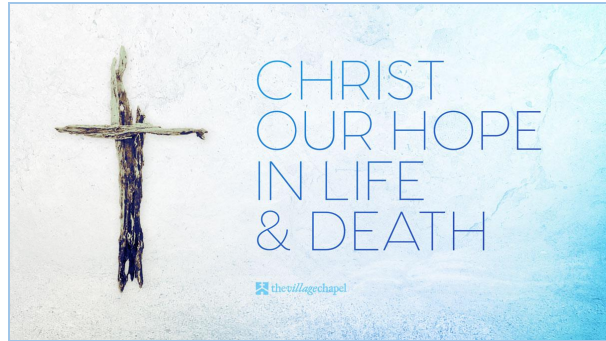


Easter 2022

Pastor Jim Thomas

April 17, 2022



SERMON NOTES

Resurrection Sunday 2022

Mark 16:1-8

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ stirs hope in our hearts for at least four different reasons:

1. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is philosophically reasonable
2. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is historically credible
3. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is globally beautiful
4. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is personally transforming

“As only God can create, only God can renew His whole creation. It started with the resurrection of Jesus — one new thing that changes everything. In lives transformed by the Spirit of Christ, we have a foretaste of the new future.”

- Richard Bauckham

“Easter confronts us with a historical event set in time. We are faced with a story of an empty tomb, of a small group of men and women who were at one stage hiding for their lives and at the next were brave enough to face the full judicial persecution of the Roman Empire and proclaim their belief in a risen Christ.”

- A.N. Wilson

“Christianity is the largest and the most diverse belief system in the world, with roughly equal numbers of Christians in Europe, North America, South America, and Africa, and with a rapidly growing church in China that is expected to outgrow the church in America by 2030, and could include half of China’s population by 2060.”

- Rebecca McLaughlin, *The Secular Creed*

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”

- 1 Peter 1:3-5

“Peter’s message, like Paul’s, focused on Jesus’ death and resurrection. Both events were real, objective and historical. And surely the right response to the existential mood of today is not to create a parallel Christian existentialism which despises history in favour of experience, and demythologizes the resurrection into an inward encounter with reality, but rather to offer to the modern mind as it flounders in the quicksands of subjectivity the objective bedrock of Jesus Christ whose death and resurrection are solid historical events.”

- John Stott

“The resurrection of Jesus is the only Christian guide to the question of where history is going.”

- N.T. Wright