



# **SUNDAY MORNING**

## **AT BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Title:** Why Seek Ye the Living Among the Dead?

**Passage:** Luke 24:1-12

**Speaker:** Pastor Dan Preston

**Introduction:** Christians don't gather on Easter merely to remember that Jesus died; we gather because He died and rose again. If He only died, He might be admired or respected, but if He rose, He must be believed, worshiped, and obeyed. On that first resurrection morning, no one expected Him to be alive. The women came with spices, the disciples were confused, and the world assumed the story was over. But heaven declared otherwise: "He is not here, but is risen." From that moment, the resurrection demanded a response, and people are still responding to the empty tomb today.

### **I. What the Women Found at the Tomb (Verses 1-3)**

When your expectations are built on the assumption that Jesus is still dead, nothing is going to make sense.

The problem is not that Jesus is absent; the problem is that He is being approached as though He were still dead.

These women were sincere, devoted, and sacrificial. But they were wrong. They came expecting death, but they were about to be confronted with life.

### **II. What the Angels Declared (Verses 4-8)**



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The tomb was empty not because something had gone wrong, but because everything had gone exactly right. Death had been defeated, just as Jesus said it would be.

The angels did not point the women to their feelings or to their circumstances. They pointed them to the words of Jesus. Faith in the resurrection is not built on emotion or speculation, but on the truth of what Christ has said.

The empty tomb demanded a response then, and it still does today.

### **III. How People Responded (Verses 9-12)**

#### **A. Some Respond with Faith and Changed Lives.**

The women came to the tomb confused, expecting death, but when they believed what Jesus had said, everything shifted. Their faith moved them, and it gave them something to say.

When someone truly believes that Jesus is alive, it changes them. It may not make them perfect, but it will make them different.

Believing the resurrection is not just about agreeing with a fact; it is about living in light of it. If Jesus is alive, then He is present in your life.

#### **B. Some Respond with Doubt and Dismissal.**

There are many who hear the message of the cross and the empty tomb and simply write it off. They may not be angry about it; they just dismiss it.

If Jesus really is alive, then that means He has authority. It means He has the right to speak into our lives, to call us to change, to call us to follow Him.



C. Some Respond with Curiosity and Consideration.

Peter was not yet fully convinced, but he was no longer dismissive. He was curious. He wanted to know more. He was willing to investigate for himself.

There are people who are not ready to say they believe, but they are not willing to walk away either.

The resurrection invites you to come closer, to look for yourself, to examine the evidence, and to consider honestly what it means that the tomb is empty.

The empty tomb does not allow for indifference. It calls for a decision. Jesus is either alive, or He is not. And if He is alive, then that changes everything.

**Conclusion:** The question still stands today: “Why seek the living among the dead?” The resurrection isn’t just something to think about; it’s something to respond to. If Jesus is alive, then He is Lord, and He is calling you to come to Him. So what will you do with the empty tomb? Will you believe, trust Him for forgiveness, and stop searching in places that cannot satisfy? Because the truth is simple and life-changing: Jesus died for our sins, was buried, and rose again, and because He lives, there is hope, forgiveness, and eternal life for all who believe. The tomb is empty, Christ is alive, and the invitation is open to you today.

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