

**Pastor Jim Jackson, 4/5/26**

***King Jesus***

**Luke 24:1-12; 36-49**

### **The King DIES**

Earlier, Jesus prophesied he would die in Jerusalem and be crucified (Mark 9:31; John 8:28; 10:18). The Romans ruled Israel, and the process of crucifixion was so humiliating and brutal, they primarily only crucified non-Romans or Romans who committed treason. Soldiers carrying out a crucifixion made sure the person was dead, as anyone who survived and escaped was replaced with the offending soldier! *Crucifixion was a one-way trip to death.* The official reason for Jesus' execution was for being the 'King of the Jews' and Rome made sure pretend kings don't live. Before taking him down, a guard pierced his rib cage and heart to ensure he was dead (John 19:19, 34). *Sometimes humility looks like you're losing.*

### **The King RISES**

On Sunday morning, as Peter and John ran to find the stone rolled away with the official seal broken and no guards around, they marvel that the tomb is empty (Matt. 27:62-66). No one, including the disciples, thought Jesus would *actually* rise from the dead. *Don't be surprised if God surprises you with something surprising!* True to his word, Jesus laid dead in the tomb over three days until he 're-lifed' himself in a *resurrected* body (John 2:19-21; 10:18; 1 Cor. 15:4). Then, Sunday evening, Jesus appeared physically in a locked room to his scared disciples, and he gave them hope with his first word being 'Peace.' *The resurrected King can resurrect hope and peace when it seems all is lost* (John 14:27, 28; 2 Thess. 3:16)!

### **The King REIGNS**

Thomas wasn't at dinner a week earlier when Jesus appeared and said he wouldn't believe without feeling the nail marks. When Jesus arrives in the room again, he tells him to put his fingers in the holes in his hands and side and stop his unbelief. Thomas then makes the ultimate statement of belief—"My Lord and my God!" (John 20:24-28). *God's grace involves His willingness and our will!* Jesus then told them to spend the rest of their lives on mission for him. He promised his presence and power would go with them as they shared the hope of the Gospel. This would make them—and all believers after—proclaimers of eternal life to those who need life (Matt. 28:19, 20). *Give your life to the King of life!*