

He Is Risen

John 20:1-16 – March 31, 2024

Matthew 10:32 “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. “But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

Philip insisted. "I did so do it, it's empty. The tomb was empty!"

Silence followed. From then on Philip became a full member of the class. He died not long afterward from an infection most normal children would have shrugged off. At the funeral this class of eight-year-olds marched up to the altar not with flowers, but with their Sunday school teacher, each to lay on it an empty pantyhose egg.

The resurrection is not important nor significant... it is CENTRAL and NECESSARY!

1 Corinthians 15:14-15 And if Christ is not **risen**, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He **raised up Christ**, whom He did not raise up - if in fact the dead do not rise.

1 Corinthians 15:32 If, in the manner of men, I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantage is it to me? **If the dead do not rise**, “*Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!*”

God does not grade on a curve, He grades on the cross.

No resurrection, No hope

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope **through the resurrection** of Jesus Christ from the dead,

No resurrection, No hope – KNOW the resurrected Christ, KNOW hope!

Resurrection

Resurrection - There is nothing traditional about Easter.

What if following Christ cost you everything?

Philippians 3:8-9 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the **power of His resurrection**, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

What if following Christ cost you all you had?

- **You are not adding Jesus to your life, you are exchanging your dead life, for His eternal one.**
- **It wouldn't matter, you are gaining all that God has!**
 - May be broke but not broken.
 - Not cool but confidence in Christ
 - You may seem silly to some but your soul will be satisfied by the peace of God that surpasses all understanding.

Key Doctrine – **Central & Necessary**

Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Gospel Account

John 20:1-16

Mary Magdalene

- Town of Magdala
- Delivered from demonic possession
- She became a follower of Jesus ([Matt. 27:57](#)),
- A witness to the crucifixion and burial ([Matt. 27:61; 28:1](#); [Mark 15:40, 47](#); [John 19:25](#)),
- Among the women who went to the tomb on Sunday ([Mark 16:1](#); [John 20:1](#)).
- She was the first person to see Jesus alive ([Mark 16:9](#))

Read John 20:1-2

Expectation vs. Realization

There is **What she expected vs. what she got.**

The unexpectedness of the stone being rolled away
The shock and unplanned events of the day

She runs to tell Peter & John...

(Confusion & Desperation turn to hope and restoration)

1. *They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb*
2. *We do not know where they have laid Him*

From Realization to Revelation

Read John 20:3-10

Handkerchief

The Greek word is *saudarion*, which comes from a Latin word for "sweat." It can refer to a towel for wiping sweat from one's face.

Carpenter's Finished Work

Peter sees the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but *folded together in a place by itself.*

IT IS FINISHED: Tetelestai

Business – a literal debt had been paid in full

Judicial – a sentence was fully served

Military – A battle had been won

Debt of sin is fully paid, judgment of sin has been served, spiritual war has been won.

(9) And he saw and believed...

For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.

Rising from the dead verse

GENESIS

JONAH

PSALMS 16

They did not **see** Jesus resurrected but they **understood** that He had resurrected.

John 20:29 ... Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Mary - expectation to realization

Peter & John – Realization to Revelation

The account of the resurrection moves from Revelation to Relationship

From Revelation to Relationship

John 20:11-16

Everyone has their own story/testimony as to how they realized Christ.

Here she is... weeping

Right outside the tomb

Still weeping, **stooped down**

WILL YOU STOOP DOWN?!

- What will it cost you to consider Christ?
- FOR SOME this is a dangerous request!

There is another player here... another character in the story... "THEY"

Who are the **"THEY'S"** in your life?

- Maybe they haven't done what we think they have done.
- Maybe the Lord is closer than you think He is.
- Maybe what has happened to you or you have done to "them" can all be forgiven and redeemed in the Lord.

Turns around and sees the gardener... John 9 and the blind man

(16) Jesus said to her, MARY.

She turned and sit to Him, Rabboni!

Teacher or Master was given or used in three forms

- **Rab** – master [the lowest degree of honor]
- **Rabbi** – my master [a title of higher dignity]
- **Rabboni** – my great master [the most honorable of all.]

An expression of joy and an acknowledgment of Him as her Lord and Master

**Ps. 30:11 You have turned for me my mourning into dancing;
You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,**

IT IS WHAT GOD DOES!

Clarity out of Confusion

Delight out of Despair

Dancing out of morning

Life out of death

There was an incident in the early 1920s when Communist leader **Nikolai Bukharin** was sent from Moscow to Kiev to address an anti-God rally. For an hour he abused and ridiculed the Christian faith until it seemed as if the whole structure of belief was in ruins. - Then questions were invited.

A prominent leader in the church rose and asked to speak. He turned, faced the people, and gave the Resurrection greeting, "He is risen!" Instantly the assembly rose to its feet and the reply came back loud and clear, "He is risen indeed!"

Invitation

At the end of our time together there will be a chance to stand and receive Christ
WOULD YOU STAND

Matthew 10:32 "Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. "But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

Born again...

I own the fence

Romans 10:9-10 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

John 11:25-26 (Do you believe this?)

WILL YOU STAND?