

3-31-2024, COTR Texarkana

Title: New Beginnings

Purpose: Provoke people to find a new beginning in life because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Truth for Today: The resurrection of Jesus Christ offers us a chance for a new beginning.

Text: Matthew 28:1-10. John 19: 28-30

Topic: Resurrection, Easter, New Beginnings,

New Beginnings

I. Introduction

A. Video countdown

B. Context for resurrection crucifixion, **Pic Cross**, darkness 12-3, Text: [John 19:28–30 (NLT) Jesus knew that **his mission was now finished**, and to fulfill Scripture he said, “I am thirsty.”²⁹ A jar of sour wine was sitting there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put it on a hyssop branch, and held it up to his lips.³⁰ When Jesus had tasted it, he said, “**It is finished!**” Then he bowed his head and **gave up his spirit** (NCV **died**).]

1. What did Jesus mean when He said, ‘His mission was finished’. Jesus came to pay the penalty/ judgment for our sins so we could be forgiven and have eternal life if we believe in and follow Jesus.
2. What were His followers feeling? Hiding, afraid of Romans and Jewish leaders, disappointed, confused, and hopeless. All these feelings would change when they realized Jesus rose from the dead.

C. **Pic empty tomb**, lights, [Matthew 28:1–10 (NLT) Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb.² Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it.³ His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow.⁴ The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint.⁵ Then the angel spoke to the women. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified.⁶ **He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead...**]

1. What would His followers feel now? Their lives were forever changed. What happened to them can happen to us. That’s what we’ll talk about today. We’ll look at 4 ‘Life Applications’ what the resurrection of Jesus can do for us. **LIST**

D. Title: New Beginnings

II. Life App #1, The resurrection gives us hope no matter what we face.

A. [Luke 24:9–12 (NIV) When they (*3 women*) came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others...¹¹ But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.]

1. How would you feel if someone told you an angel rolled away the stone, and sat on it and the Roman guards shook with fear and fainted? They were still living in the darkness of Friday mode, but 2 disciples saw the light, Peter and John

- B. [Vs 12 **Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb...**] Why was Peter running? I believe he and John had a glimmer of hope that Jesus was alive. Later they talked to Jesus and their hope became reality.
1. Def. hope: Confidence that we will experience God's goodness now and in the future.¹ **E.g., hope:** The farmer hopes for a good harvest but if it's bad he still has confidence the Lord will take care of him. The ballplayer hopes to make the team but if she doesn't, she is confident God has a better plan. The patient hopes for good test results, but if they're bad they still hope for healing. If death seems inevitable their hope shifts to Jesus' promise of eternal life. The resurrection gives us hope no matter what we face.

III. The resurrection gives us joy during life's difficulties.

- A. [Matthew 28:8 (NLT) The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also **filled with great joy**, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message.], [John 16:20–22 (NLT)...you will weep and mourn over what is going to happen to me, but the world will rejoice. You will grieve, but **your grief will suddenly turn to wonderful joy...**²² So you have sorrow now, but I will see you again; **then you will rejoice, and no one can rob you of that joy.**]
- B. Def. joy: happiness, delight, gladness. Everyone experiences joy/ happiness when they hit a home run, pass a test or hit a hole in one. These pleasurable experiences produce joy for everyone but it's possible to still have joy when we strike out, fail the test or hit the ball in the woods because of our relationship with God.
- C. The resurrection gave His early followers joy in their darkest hour, and He can do the same for us. It's not fun to face problems in life but in the middle of our darkest, most fearful hour we can find peace and joy in Jesus because we know He cares about us; we know He hears our prayer and we know He will be with us every moment on earth until we go to heaven and see Him face to face.

IV. The resurrection gives us victory over death

- A. John 11:25 (NLT) Jesus told her (*Martha*), "I am the resurrection and the life. **Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.**
- B. 1 Corinthians 15:42-57 (NLT) It is the same way with the resurrection of the dead. Our earthly bodies are planted in the ground when we die, but they will be raised to live forever...⁵⁴ Then, when **our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die**, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "**Death is swallowed up in victory.**"⁵⁵ O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?"⁵⁶ For sin is the sting that results in death...⁵⁷ But **thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.**
- C. Mary Lou Myers, **Pic** kids
- D. We all can live after we die because of the resurrection if we believe and follow Jesus. When a Christian dies, at the memorial service we don't say good-bye, we say, I'll see you later.

V. Conclusion: The resurrection gives us the promise of eternal life if we believe and follow Jesus

- A. John 3:16 (NIV) For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that **whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.**
 - 1. Def. eternal life: to live forever; to live after we die.
 - 2. Def. temporary: The things of this world that will not last forever, including possessions and life on earth.
 - 3. 2 Corinthians 4:17–18 (NIV) For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since **what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.**
- B. How do I get a new beginning in my life. (1) Believe in Jesus (2) make a decision/ commitment/ recommitment to follow Him. I want to give you that chance now.
Online too

VI. Response

- A. Souls: Prayer for a ‘New Beginning’ in life.

VII. Bibliography/ Resources: Logos Bible Software and Library, Platinum Edition, was used to prepare this message.

- 1. Lexham Bible Dictionary

VIII. Supplemental Material

- A. [1 Pet. 1:21 (NLT) Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And **you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead...**]
- B.

IX. Ideas

- A. Ecc 9:5-8+ futility of life without Christ. Solomon backslide , influenced by pagan wives
- B. *Freedom*
- C. Jn 16:33

X. A sense of purpose for our lives as we follow God’s plan

- A. Ecc Ps days book

XI. Boldness...before and after

- A. Peter denial...witness council
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.
- F. Matthew 28:1–10 (NLT) Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. ² Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. ³ His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. ⁴ The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. ⁵ Then the angel spoke to the women. “Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ **He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead,** just as he said would happen. **Come**, see where his body was lying. ⁷ And now, go

- quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you.”⁸ The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also **filled with great joy**, and **they rushed to give the disciples the angel’s message**.⁹ And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his feet, and worshiped him.¹⁰ Then Jesus said to them, “Don’t be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there.”
- G. Mark 16:1–8 (NLT) Saturday evening, when the Sabbath ended, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome went out and purchased burial spices so they could anoint Jesus’ body.² Very early on Sunday morning, just at sunrise, they went to the tomb.³ On the way they were asking each other, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?”⁴ But as they arrived, they looked up and saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled aside.⁵ When they entered the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a white robe sitting on the right side. The women were shocked,⁶ but the angel said, “Don’t be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. **He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead!** Look, this is where they laid his body.⁷ Now go and tell his disciples, including Peter, that Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there, just as he told you before he died.”⁸ The women fled from the tomb, **trembling and bewildered**, and they said nothing to anyone because they were too **frightened**. Then they briefly reported all this to Peter and his companions. Afterward Jesus himself sent them out from east to west with the sacred and unfailing message of salvation that gives eternal life. Amen.
- H. Luke 24:1–12 (NLT) But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared.² They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance.³ So they went in, but **they didn’t find the body of the Lord Jesus**.⁴ As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes.⁵ The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, “**Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive?** **He isn’t here! He is risen from the dead!** Remember what he told you back in Galilee,⁷ that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and **be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day.**”⁸ Then they remembered that he had said this.⁹ So they rushed back from the tomb to tell his eleven disciples—and everyone else—what had happened.¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and several other women who told the apostles what had happened.¹¹ But **the story sounded like nonsense to the men, so they didn’t believe it**.¹² However, **Peter jumped up and ran to the tomb to look**. Stooping, he peered in and saw the empty linen wrappings; then he went home again, wondering what had happened.
- I. John 20:1–10 (NLT) Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance.² She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, “They have taken the Lord’s body out of the tomb, and we don’t

know where they have put him!”³ **Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb.** ⁴ **They were both running,** but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn’t go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ while the cloth that had covered Jesus’ head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. ⁸ Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and **he saw and believed—⁹ for until then they still hadn’t understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead.** ¹⁰ Then they went home.

J.