



EASTER

AT THE CREEK

It is anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, anything you seek to give you what only God can give.

A counterfeit god is anything so central and essential to your life that, should you lose it, your life would feel hardly worth living. An idol has such controlling position in your heart that you can spend most of your passion and energy, your emotional and financial resources, on it without a second thought.

It can be family and children, or career and making money, or achievement and critical acclaim, or saving “face” and social standing. It can be a romantic relationship, peer approval, competence and skill, secure and comfortable circumstances, your beauty and brains, a great political or social cause, your morality and virtue,

An idol is whatever you look at and say, in your heart of hearts, “if I have that, then I’ll feel my life has meaning, then I’ll know I have value, then I’ll feel significant and secure.”

Tim Keller

Therefore, this is what the Sovereign Lord says: “Look! I am placing a **foundation** stone in Jerusalem, a **firm** and **tested** stone. It is a precious **cornerstone** that is **safe** to build on.

Isaiah 28:16 NLT

Whoever believes need never be
shaken.

Isaiah 28:16 NLT

Foundations are of first importance.

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As the foundation goes,
so goes everything built upon it.

...I have come that they may have
life, and have it to the **full**.

John 10:10 NLT

**As His popularity grew,
so did the controversy.**

...‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’

Matthew 11:19 NIV

...Anyone who has seen me has
seen **the Father**.

John 14:9 NIV

I and the Father are one.”

John 10:30 NIV

Again his Jewish opponents picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus said to them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?”

John 10:31-32 NIV

“We are not stoning you for any good work,” they replied, “but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, **claim to be God.**”

John 10:33 NIV

When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are **forgiven.**”

Mark 2:5 NIV

“Why does this fellow talk like that? He’s blaspheming! Who can forgive sins **but God alone?**”

Mark 2:7 NIV

Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes **in me** will live, even though they die;

John 11:25 NIV

So from that day on they plotted to
take his life.

John 11:53 NIV

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

God has raised this Jesus to life,
and we are all witnesses of it.

Acts 2:32 NIV

...Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom
you crucified but whom God
raised from the dead...

Acts 4:10 NIV

Jesus is “‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the **cornerstone**.’ Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:11-12 NIV

How do we explain the fact that this movement spread like wildfire with Jesus as the messiah, even though Jesus had been crucified?

The answer has to be, it can only be, because he raised from the dead.

N.T. Wright

Who is Jesus?

Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the **gospel** I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand.

1 Corinthians 15:1 NIV

By this gospel you are **saved**, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:2 NIV

For what I received I passed on to
you as of first importance:

1 Corinthians 15:3 NIV

that Christ **died** for our sins
according to the Scriptures,
that he was **buried**, that he was
raised on the third day according
to the Scriptures,

1 Corinthians 15:4 NIV

The resurrection is the
foundation of our faith.

The resurrection is the
foundation of our faith,
our hope, our joy, our peace.

The resurrection reframes our
past, our present, and our future.

The resurrection requires us to
take seriously everything
Jesus said about life, death,
and life after death.

Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

Matthew 7:24 NIV

The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet **it did not fall**, because it had its **foundation on the rock**.

Matthew 7:25 NIV

But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.

Matthew 7:26 NIV

The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.

Matthew 7:27 NIV