

Title: Empty and Enough: The Resurrection's Proclamation of Christ's Sufficiency

Sermon Summary: This Easter sermon explores the profound theological truth that the empty tomb is God's public declaration that Christ's work on the cross was sufficient, acceptable, and complete for our salvation. The pastor challenges the common misconception that the resurrection merely adds a "happy ending" to the crucifixion story. Instead, the resurrection is God's confirmation that Christ's payment for sin was enough—fully satisfying divine justice and exhausting God's wrath. The sermon then transitions from theological realities to practical implications, calling believers to empty themselves as Christ did, refusing to fill their lives with worldly pursuits while merely adding "a little Jesus" to an already crowded existence. The central message is that Christ is enough for salvation, peace, security, significance, freedom from condemnation, new life, and perseverance—and our lives should reflect this sufficiency by emptying ourselves of everything but Christ.

Key Points:

The resurrection is God's public proof that Christ's work on the cross was sufficient and accepted as full payment for sin

The cross is where redemption was accomplished; the resurrection is where redemption was confirmed, proclaimed, and applied

Six theological realities of the resurrection: nothing more is needed, peaceful eternal salvation is assured, condemnation is eradicated, death and the devil are conquered, intimate union with God is possible, and our perseverance is guaranteed

Christ was "enough" because He emptied Himself—giving up His right to exalt Himself, refusing to chase status or recognition, and submitting completely to God's will

Believers are called to empty themselves like Christ: listening before asserting, serving without recognition, and loving without demanding love in return

Many Christians feel empty and "not enough" because their lives are full of everything except Christ

The challenge is not to add more Jesus to an already full life, but to empty ourselves of all but Christ

Scripture Reference:

Matthew 28:6 - "He is not here, for he is risen, just as he said"

Romans 4:25 - Christ delivered over for our transgressions and raised for our justification

Romans 5:1-2 - Justified by faith, we have peace with God

Romans 8:1 - No condemnation for those in Christ

Hebrews 2:14 - Christ conquered death and the devil

Romans 6:4-7 - Buried with Christ through baptism, walking in newness of life

Hebrews 7:25 - Christ always lives to make intercession

Philippians 2:5-8 - Christ emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant

Mark 10:45 - The Son of Man came to serve and give His life as a ransom

John 14:15 - "If you love me, you will keep my commandments"

Romans 12:1 - Present your bodies as a living sacrifice

Stories:

Reference to the book of Job where Satan accuses Job before God, illustrating how Christ now stands as our advocate before the Father

The pastor mentions listening to a podcast clip by Dr. John Snyder from Media Gratia about the nature of the human soul and why we experience emptiness when our hearts are too full of worldly things to make room for Jesus

Analogy of hard, fallow ground crowded with weeds where seed cannot be sown, representing hearts full of everything but Jesus