

Not an empty promise

Intro: (risen way)

Gen 15:12-21

"Know for certain"

God is not against proof - He wants us to have trust - to know for certain that His promises are true...

He gave Gideon proof with the fleece, He gave Hezekiah proof with the sun, but He gave us even more proof...

Problem:

Acts 2:22-36

"Know for certain"...the resurrection is meant to give us certainty that everything Jesus said about Himself was true...but that is not all

1 cor 15:1-11

Paul lays out the proof of the resurrection not merely to prove an impersonal fact but to make a much more personal point

(1 cor 1:10-19) The corinthians were drawing their security and significance from the empty promise of status and recognition...His answer was the gospel

(1 cor 1:26-31) And the true security and significance that comes from being in Christ

The empty tomb was no empty promise...it is a personal promise of what is to come - and it is the centerpiece of all of Christianity...

Main Idea:

If the empty tomb is an empty promise

it is not true

And I have been lying to you

And there is nothing to look forward to

But it is true...

Implication:

Lev 23:9-21

It is true...it is a preview, I have not lied to you, there is something to look forward to

1 Pet 1:3-9

The empty tomb was no empty promise- living hope

Application: (forsaken)

Jn 20:26-29

He is a preview except one point...He will be the only one with scars

(Rev 5:1-10)

Why keep them? They are visible scars declaring His **and our** victory and we will forever celebrate them

The empty tomb is no empty promise

Know for certain - His death is your death

Know for certain - His resurrection is your resurrection

Know for certain - His victory is your victory

Take heart He has overcome the world...and so have we

End:

<https://www.gotquestions.org/resurrection-Christ-important.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/resurrection-first-second.html>

<https://www.spurgeon.org/resource-library/sermons/the-wounds-of-jesus/#flipbook/>

Not an empty promise

Text:

If the empty tomb is an empty promise... it is not true

1Corinthians 15:12 ¶ Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

1Corinthians 15:13 **But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.**

lk 14:12-14 (two resurrections not one general res.)

jn 5:25-29 (one to heaven one to judgment)

rev 20:4-6, 12-15; 21:8 (all will be raised - His res. is a preview...)

mk 12:18-27 (they doubted, Corinthians gnostic...like us (acts 23:1-11)- disembodied hope - God likes matter He made it - He became matter - He came back as matter...we should like matter too...)

acts 23:1-11 (His res. Is inextricably linked with ours...the proof of His res. Is also the proof of ours...if it is not a preview it is not true...and then we have bigger problems)

I have been lying to you

1Corinthians 15:14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.

1Corinthians 15:15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.

1Corinthians 15:16 **For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised.**

rom 4:18-25 (if His res. Is not a preview - it is not true...neither is my preaching justification becomes a lie)

rom 6:1-11 (newness of life becomes a lie)

rom 7:4-6 (freedom becomes a lie)

rom 8:8-11 (His Spirit in you becomes a lie)

rom 10:5-11 (salvation becomes a lie)

there is nothing to look forward to

1Corinthians 15:17 And if Christ has not been raised, **your faith is futile** and you are **still in your sins**.

1Corinthians 15:18 Then **those also who have fallen asleep** in Christ have **perished**.

1Corinthians 15:19 If in Christ we have **hope in this life only**, we are of all people most to be **pitied**.

col 1:15-20 (Christ becomes a lie, your faith is futile)

col 2:8-15; 3:1-4 (Christ becomes a lie, you are still in your sins)

jn 11:21-26 (Christ becomes a liar, the dead have perished, most to be pitied, hopeless)

But it is true...

1Corinthians 15:20 ¶ **But in fact Christ has been raised** from the dead, the **firstfruits** of those who have fallen asleep.