

Matthew 28:1-10

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. <sup>2</sup>There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. <sup>4</sup>The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." <sup>8</sup>So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

I. The Assurance of Easter

Evidences of the Resurrection

A. Scripture predicted the \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalms 16:10

...because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.

Matthew 12:39-40

He answered, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a miraculous sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. <sup>40</sup>For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

B. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the first \_\_\_\_\_.

1. The courage of the \_\_\_\_\_.

2. The changed life of his \_\_\_\_\_.

- The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ \_\_\_\_\_ him from every other religious figure in the world.
- \_\_\_\_\_ comes in the settled conviction that Christ \_\_\_\_\_ from the grave.

II. The Authority of Easter

Romans 1:4

...and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

Matthew 28:18-20

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Avenues of Authority

A. \_\_\_\_\_ of the majority

- The fault of trusting the \_\_\_\_\_ is that many times the crowd has been dead \_\_\_\_\_.

B. Individual \_\_\_\_\_

- The problem with trusting my \_\_\_\_\_ is its \_\_\_\_\_: like a computer, it gives back what I put into it.

C. Qualified \_\_\_\_\_

- The problem with trusting the \_\_\_\_\_ is that you can always find someone to agree with any kind of \_\_\_\_\_ that you want to indulge in.

D. Risen \_\_\_\_\_

- Christ's \_\_\_\_\_ gives him his stamp of approval as absolute \_\_\_\_\_.

I Corinthians 15: 17, 20-22

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

<sup>20</sup>But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

<sup>21</sup>For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.

<sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

- \_\_\_\_\_ comes in the settled conviction that Christ has authority over our \_\_\_\_\_.

- Maximum \_\_\_\_\_ comes in surrendering the authority of our \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ.

The direction of your life will ultimately and eternally be determined by who has the authority in your life.

III. The Announcement of Easter

The Announcement of Hope

Saturday, March 21  
Sunday, March 22, 2008

I Corinthians 15:3-6

*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. <sup>6</sup>After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.*

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|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Easter brings the hope of: |                               |
| • Forgiveness              | • Provision                   |
| • Peace                    | • Presence                    |
| • Assurance                | • Seeing our loved ones again |
| • Heaven                   |                               |

A. The process of \_\_\_\_\_

1. Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_ for our sins.

- Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ our death so that we could \_\_\_\_\_ his life.

2. Jesus has \_\_\_\_\_ our sin.

Isaiah 53:9

*He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.*

Jeremiah 31:4

*I will build you up again and you will be rebuilt, O Virgin Israel. Again you will take up your tambourines and go out to dance with the joyful.*

<p>The Hope of Easter is that Jesus not only went to the cross for you...He went to the tomb for you. He not only took your place on the cross...He took your place in that tomb!</p>
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3. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ over our sin.

- Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_, not resuscitated, so that we might \_\_\_\_\_ eternal.
- Salvation occurs when we believe \_\_\_\_\_ not merely \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus died and rose again.



The Hope of Easter