#### THE RESURRECTION

(MULTIPLE SERMONS!)

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# THE GREATEST SUNDAY IN HISTORY

(Matthew 28)

MIRACLE - Vss. 1-4

The stone was rolled away, not to let Jesus out, but to let people in to see the empty tomb.

<sup>1</sup>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.

#### MESSAGE - Vss. 5-7

Jesus was risen from the dead and the disciples needed to be told.

<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."

#### **MANIFESTATION - Vss. 8-10**

Jesus revealed Himself to the women who came to the tomb.

<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."

#### MISINFORMATION - Vss. 11-15

There was a cover-up of the truth by the authorities.

<sup>11</sup>While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. <sup>12</sup>When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, <sup>13</sup>telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.' 14If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." <sup>15</sup>So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

#### **MANDATE - Vs. 16-20**

The world is to be reached with the Gospel.

<sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>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."

## IT HAPPENED ON EASTER

(Matthew 28)

#### **SUPERNATURAL ACTIVITIES - Vss. 1-4**

<sup>1</sup>After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

The earthquake - Vs. 2

<sup>2</sup>There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven

The angel who rolled back the stone - Vss. 2-3 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.

The frightened soldiers - Vs. 4

<sup>4</sup>The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

#### **STARTLING ANNOUNCEMENT - Vss. 5-8**

<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.

Jesus was not there! He arose from the dead! Vs. 6

<sup>6</sup>He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.

They were to examine his empty grave. Vs. 6

Come and see the place where he lay.

They were to tell the disciples that Jesus would appear to them in Galilee. Vs. 7

<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.

#### **SUPERB APPEARANCE - Vss. 9-10**

The risen Jesus appeared to the women.

<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."

#### **SUSPICIOUS ANSWER - Vss. 11-15**

When word got around of the empty tomb and the resurrection, the religious leaders needed an excuse to deny the resurrection. They bribed the guards.

<sup>11</sup>While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. 12When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, <sup>13</sup>telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.' <sup>14</sup>If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." <sup>15</sup>So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

#### **SPECIFIC AGENDA - Vss. 16-20**

The disciples were to fulfill the Great Commission.

<sup>16</sup>Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup>When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19Therefore 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."

### TOMB VISITORS

**Matthew 28:1-10** 

John 20:1-18

#### **Tomb Visitors!**

Today, we're going to look at some of the people who visited Jesus' tomb after He was buried.

THE KEEPERS WERE SCARED - Matthew 28:1-4

THE WOMEN HEARD - Matthew 28: 5-8, 9-10

MARY MISUNDERSTOOD - John 20:1-2, 11-18

PETER WONDERED - John 20:3-7, 9

**JOHN BELIEVED - John 20:8** 

## A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY

(Matthew 28)

#### A Wonderful Holiday!!

Easter and Christmas are perhaps the two greatest holidays for Christians.

Matthew 28 shows why Easter is so great.

#### A Wonderful Holiday!!

#### THE MOVEMENT OF THE STONE - Vss. 1-4 -

The stone is rolled away, not to let Jesus out, but to let the world in to see the empty tomb.

#### THE MESSAGE OF RESURRECTION - Vss. 5-8 -

Jesus was not in the tomb. He had risen from the dead. The disciples needed to hear the great news.

#### A Wonderful Holiday!!

#### THE MASTER OF COMPASSION - Vss. 9-10 -

He appears to the women and encourages them during a time of great confusion.

#### THE MOCKERY OF DECEPTION - Vss. 11-15 -

The Jewish leaders try to discredit the resurrection.

#### THE MANDATE OF EVANGELISM - Vss. 16-20 -

Jesus appears to the disciples, and assigns them to the task of world evangelism.

### EASTER EVENTS

(Mark 16)

#### **Easter Events!!**

THE WOMEN WERE CONCERNED - Vss. 1-4

THE ANGEL WAS COMFORTING - Vss. 5-7

THE LORD WAS CONSPICUOUS - Vss. 9-10

THE APOSTLES WERE CALLUSED - Vss. 11-14

THE PLAN WAS MADE CLEAR - Vss. 15-20

### **EASTER**

(Mark 16)

#### Easter!!

MISSION OF LOVE - Vss. 1-4

MESSAGE OF VICTORY - Vss. 5-7

MEETINGS WITH MEANING - Vss. 8-14

Mary Magdalene - Vss. 9-11

Disciples on the road to Emmaus - Vss. 12-13

(see Luke 24:19-32)

The Eleven - Vs. 14

**MANDATE FOR EVANGELISM - Vss. 15-18** 

## THE FIRST EASTER

(Mark 16:9-15)

#### **REVELATION - Vss. 9 and 12**

Mark mentions Mary Magdalene and the two disciples who traveled on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35) as those to whom Jesus appeared after resurrecting from the dead.

<sup>9</sup>When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons.

<sup>12</sup>Afterward Jesus appeared in a different form to two of them while they were walking in the country.

#### **RESPONSE - Vss. 10, 11, 13**

The disciples did not initially believe the reports of Jesus' resurrection.

<sup>10</sup>She went and told those who had been with him and who were mourning and weeping. <sup>11</sup>When they heard that Jesus was alive and that she had seen him, they did not believe it.

<sup>13</sup>These returned and reported it to the rest; but they did not believe them either.

REBUKE - Vs. 14

Jesus appeared to the disciples and rebuked them for their unbelief.

<sup>14</sup>Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen.

#### **RESPONSIBILITY - Vs. 15**

After belief comes the responsibility of sharing the Good News with others.

<sup>15</sup>He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.

### THE GREATNESS OF EASTER

(Mark 16)

#### The Greatness of Easter!!

Easter is a great holiday. Mark shows us some of the greatness of Easter.

THE GREAT KINDNESS Vss. 1-3

The women come to the tomb to anoint his body.

**THE GREAT DISCOVERY Vss.4-5** 

The tomb is empty!

### The Greatness of Easter!!

THE GREAT ANNOUNCEMENT Vss. 6-8

"He is not here!"

THE GREAT APPEARANCES Vss. 9-14

Mary Magdalene Vss. 9-11

Disciples on Road to Emmaus Vss. 12-13

The Eleven Vs. 14

### The Greatness of Easter!!

**THE GREAT COMMISSION Vss. 15-18** 

THE GREAT CONCLUSION Vss. 19-20
The Ascension. Vs. 19
The preaching of the Gospel. Vs. 20

## LUKE'S EASTER STORY

(Luke 24)

### Luke's Easter Story!!

### **PRECIOUS PROCLAMATION - Vss. 1-10**

The angels made it clear that Jesus had risen from the dead.

PERPLEXED PEOPLE - Vss. 11-24

Both the Twelve and the disciples on the road to Emmaus expressed their doubts about the resurrection.

### Luke's Easter Story!!

PROCLAIMED PRECEPTS - Vss. 25-37, 44-45

Jesus held "Bible Class" first on the Road to Emmaus and then in the Upper Room.

PERSONAL PRESENCE - Vss. 28-36

Jesus revealed himself first to the those on the Road to Emmaus, then to Peter, and then to The Twelve.

### Luke's Easter Story!!

**POWERFUL PROOF - Vss. 37-43** 

His hands and side.

He was able to eat.

PRESCRIBED PLAN - Vss. 46-49

They were to take the Gospel to the world.

### THREE FOR EMMAUS

(Luke 24:13-32)

### THREE FOR EMMAUS!!

A COMPASSIONATE QUESTION - Vss. 13-17

Jesus wanted to know why the two on the road to Emmaus were sad.

He cared about His followers.

He still does.

### **THREE FOR EMMAUS!!**

### A CONFUSED ADMISSION - Vss. 18-24

The two had thought that Jesus was the one who would redeem Israel.

Now He was dead.

They did not understand true redemption that Jesus secured on the cross.

They were also confused about the reports of an open sepulchre and the appearance of angels.

### THREE FOR EMMAUS!!

A COMPLETE EXPLANATION - Vss. 25-27

Jesus explained the events of his suffering and resurrection according to the Old Testament Scriptures.

A CLEAR REVELATION - Vss. 28-32

Jesus made it clear that He had indeed risen from the dead.

# JESUS IS THE ANSWER

(Luke 24:13-32)

### **JESUS IS THE ANSWER!!**

JESUS IS THE ANSWER FOR SORROW - Vss. 13-24 When there is sorrow, Jesus is there to listen. (Hebrews 13:5-6, Revelation 3:20)

### **JESUS IS THE ANSWER!!**

### JESUS IS THE ANSWER FOR CONFUSION -

- Vss.25-27

He can take what confuses us and explain it. He uses His Word.

When we are confused we must not only pray for guidance but read the Bible.

### **JESUS IS THE ANSWER!!**

JESUS IS THE ANSWER FOR JOY - Vss. 28-32, 41

If we want to be joyful, we must realize that we serve a risen Lord!

(Luke 24:13-35)

When Jesus rose from the dead He ministered to hurting people.

He appeared to Mary Magdalene who was hurting because of the loss of her Master.

He appeared to Peter who was hurting because he had denied his Lord three times.

He appeared to 10 of the disciples who were hurting because they ran when Jesus was arrested.

He appeared to Thomas who was hurting because of his unbelief.

He appeared to as many as 500 disciples at one time. Many of these would have been hurting for some reason.

As we see our text, Jesus also appeared to two of His followers on the Road to Emmaus.

They were also hurting. It says in Luke 24:15, "Jesus himself drew near, and went with them."

Even today, when we are hurting, we find that Jesus draws near."

JESUS DRAWS NEAR DURING CONFUSION - v. 1-14 Jesus drew near to these disciples during confusing times.

Just that week they probably had been involved with Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

Then there was the betrayal, arrest, trial, conviction and crucifixion of their Lord.

Added to this were the events of Verses 1-14.

These men were certainly confused!

It is during our times of confusion that Jesus will draw near to help us.

When we hurt because of sickness, death, marital or family problems, financial difficulties or employment or school problems, Jesus will draw near to help us.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matthew 11:28-30)

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:38-39)

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you." (Hebrews 13:5)

JESUS DRAWS NEAR WITH CONCERN - Vss. 15-17 He wanted to know why the disciples were sad.

He was desirous to help.

Even today, Jesus is present, always ready to listen and always concerned.

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need. (Hebrews 4:15-16)

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:7)

JESUS DRAWS NEAR WITH CORRECTION - Vss. 18-27
Jesus listened to their concerns - then corrected them!
He taught them about Himself so that they would better understand the events that had just taken place.

As we pray and study our Bibles during times of trouble, Jesus will correct us as well, and put us on the right path.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, (2 Timothy 3:16)

### **JESUS DRAWS NEAR WITH COMFORT - Vss. 28-35**

These disciples were comforted by Jesus' appearance. Vs. 31

Actually as Jesus taught the Scriptures to them their hearts "burned".

This was a good heartburn. Vs. 32

Notice how quickly they shared their comfort with others.

As we get into the Word of God and prayer, we will see Jesus more clearly and be comforted by Him.

# EASTER EVENTS!!

(Luke 24:33-53)

### **EASTER EVENTS!!**

**REPORTS OF THE RESURRECTION - Vss. 33-35** 

**REVELATION TO THE DISCIPLES - Vs. 36** 

**RESPONSE OF TERROR - Vs. 37** 

REASSURANCE THROUGH TOUCH AND TASTE - Vss. 38-43 Jesus showed them His body and ate food.

### **EASTER EVENTS!!**

**REVIEW OF THE SCRIPTURES - Vss. 44-46** 

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVANGELISM - Vss. 47-49** 

**RETURN TO HEAVEN Vss. 40-53** 

### OUT OF THE DEPTHS!!

(Luke 24:13-53)

### **OUT OF THE DEPTHS!!**

SORROW – Vss. 13-24 – The disciples were disappointed and confused.

SENSE – Vss. 25-27, 44-49 – Jesus explained the truth.

SIGHT – Vss. 28-43 – The disciples saw Jesus.

SONG – 50-53 – The disciples rejoiced.

(John 19:30-42; etc.)

HE'S NOT ON THE CROSS – (John 19:30-42)

His work on the cross is finished! He hangs there no longer!

HE'S NOT IN THE TOMB – (Mark 16)

He's risen from the dead!

### **HE'S NOT PHYSICALLY ON EARTH —**

After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven." (Acts 1:9-11)

He has ascended into Heaven.

### HE'S IN HEAVEN -

which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, (Ephesians 1:20)

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. (Colossians 3:1)

### HE'S IN HEAVEN -

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. (Hebrews 1:3)

## WHERE'S JESUS

## HE'S KNOCKING AT YOUR HEART'S DOOR -

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me. (Revelation 3:20)

## WHERE'S JESUS

He's either knocking so you'll open the door for salvation or so that you'll open the door for fellowship with Him as a Christian.

"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. (John 3:16)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— not by works, so that no one can boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9),

# TALE OF THE TOMB (John 20:1-18)

## TALE OF THE TOMB!!

**EXASPERATION - Vss. 1-2** 

Mary found an empty tomb. She thought someone had stolen the body.

**EXAMINATION - Vss. 3-10** 

Peter and John examined the evidence. John believed.

## TALE OF THE TOMB!!

**EXPRESSION - Vss. 11-16** 

Jesus expressed his presence to Mary.

**EXCLAMATION - Vss. 16-18** 

Mary was so excited that she clung to Him.

## A LIVING SAVIOR (John 20:19-29)

## A LIVING SAVIOR!!

**APPEARANCE OF A LIVING SAVIOR - Vss. 19-20** 

**AUTHORITY OF A LIVING SAVIOR - Vss. 21-23** 

He has authority to give peace.

He has authority to send the disciples to the world.

He has authority to provide the Holy Spirit.

He has authority to give the Apostles authority.

## **A LIVING SAVIOR!!**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF A LIVING SAVIOR - Vss. 24-29** 

Thomas missed the first appearance of Jesus.

He expressed his doubts.

When Jesus appeared to Thomas the second time, he believed.

Jesus announces that the ones who do not see and still believed are blessed.

## BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

(John 20:19-23)

## **BEHIND CLOSED DOORS!!**

Some of the best times we have with friends and family are in private.

Such was the case when Jesus appeared to his disciples on Resurrection Night.

During this meeting Jesus gave to his disciples four things.

## **BEHIND CLOSED DOORS!!**

## 1. Peace To Enjoy Vs. 19

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

## 2. Proofs To Believe Vs. 20

After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

## **BEHIND CLOSED DOORS!!**

## 3. Plans To Obey Vs. 21

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

## 4. Power To Appropriate Vss. 22-23

And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

(John 20:24-29)

STUBBORN DOUBT - Vss. 24-25

Thomas refused to believe in the resurrection, unless he saw it for himself.

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

SHUT DOORS - Vs. 26

At a time when the disciples were isolated from others Jesus again appeared while Thomas was present.

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

STRENGTHENING DEMANDS - Vs. 27

Jesus invited Thomas to examine Him and believe!

Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

STEADFAST DECISION - Vs. 28

Thomas did believe and made his belief very certain.

He called Jesus his Lord and his God.

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

### **SOOTHING DECLARATION - Vs. 29**

This statement is for the benefit of those of often come after Thomas.

We can't see Jesus literally, but we are blessed when we trust Him without seeing.

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

(John 21:1-18)

Jesus had promised to make the disciples "fishers of men".

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)

This post-resurrection appearance can be applied to winning souls for Him.

**DON'T FISH WITHOUT CHRIST - Vss. 1-6** 

The disciples went fishing without Jesus and caught nothing. With Jesus' help the nets were full.

We can't expect to win souls to Christ without His enabling power.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5)

## **DON'T FRET OVER THE CATCH - Vss. 7-11**

Often when we lead souls to Christ we worry about the sincerity of the decision and the consistency of the converts.

Just as the net held all the flesh, the Lord Jesus holds all those that sincerely trust in Him.

### **DON'T FRET OVER THE CATCH - Vss. 7-11**

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." Again the Jews picked up stones to stone him, (John 10:27-31)

### **DON'T FUSS WHEN CORRECTED - Vss. 12-18**

In order for Peter to be the very best fisher of men, Jesus needed to deal with issues in his life, and encourage him.

Jesus will correct us as well, to make sure we are good fishers of men.

(see Hebrews 12:5-11)

# BY THE SEA (John 21)

The risen Savior made an appearance to Jesus and other disciples by the Sea of Galilee.

In this passage we see:

A BIG REVERSAL - Vss. 1-3 -

Peter and others are returning to the old way of living.

They were fishing.

A BIG REMINDER - Vss. 4-11 -

The disciples are reminded of the power and the authority of the Lord Jesus with a very large catch of fish.

A BIG RECEPTION - Vss. 12-14 -

The Disciples are invited by Jesus to "Come and dine."

A BIG RESTORATION - Vss. 15-18 -

Jesus re-commissions Peter to a ministry to the "sheep" and "lambs".

Peter was not through as an apostle. He was still useable.

A BIG REQUIREMENT - Vss. 19-22 -

Peter is told about his future death.

And then he is instructed with one big requirement, true for all believers.

We are to follow Jesus.

Peter wanted to know about John's future, and Jesus basically told Peter that it was not Peter's business to know.

A BIG REFLECTION - Vss. 23-25 -

John tells us that he was an the disciple that Peter was talking about.

He also reflects on the fact that much more could have been written about the Lord Jesus.

(John 21)

A FAMILIAR SCENE - Vss. 1-3

Peter and some of the other disciples decided to return to the familiar haunts of the fishing boat.

And like other times in the past, there were no fish to be caught!

A FAMILIAR SOUND - Vss. 4-6

It was the voice of the Lord Jesus.

He was inquiring as to their wellbeing.

When they reply that they have no "meat", he tells them to cast the net on the other side of the boat.

There is a great catch.

A FAMILIAR STORY - Vss. 7-12

It is Peter, who as usual, reacts spontaneously.

He grabs his coat and puts it on.

He grabs the net to bring it in.

Then he and the other disciples are invited to join Jesus for breakfast!

A FAMILIAR SPOTLIGHT - Vss. 13-18

The spotlight is on Peter!

It needed to be.

Peter had publicly denied his Lord.

He needed to publicly confess his Lord.

He also needed to be publicly restored by Jesus so the other disciple

## HE IS RISEN!!

(John 20:1-23)

## HE IS RISEN!!

**DIFFICULTY OF AN EMPTY TOMB Vss. 1-10** 

**DISCOVERY OF A RISEN SAVIOR Vss. 11-18** 

**DISCLOSURE TO LOYAL DISCIPLES Vss. 19-23** 

(1 Corinthians 15:1-10)

People wonder about the authenticity and reality of the Easter story.

Paul answers that question, by showing us three things that are real that center around Easter.

THE REALITY OF REDEMPTION - Vss. 1-4

The facts of the Gospel of redemption are presented very concisely here.

Christ died for our sins. He was buried. He rose again.

<sup>1</sup>Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. <sup>2</sup>By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. <sup>3</sup>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,

THE REALITY OF RESURRECTION - Vss. 5-7

Here are witnesses of the fact that Jesus did rise from the dead.

<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. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,

THE REALITY OF REGENERATION - Vss. 8-10

Jesus appeared to Paul.

Paul was regenerated (born again) by the Spirit of God.

His life was changed!

<sup>8</sup>and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.

<sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.

(1 Corinthians 15:1-10)

On Good Friday we remember the death of the Lord Jesus on the cross for our sins.

He died for everyone.

Anyone who trusts him can have forgiveness and eternal life.

On Easter Sunday we remember the resurrection of Christ from the dead.

Just as the death of Jesus Christ was for everyone, so is the resurrection.

In 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 we have list of witnesses to the resurrection.

I find it striking that the resurrection of Christ was for each witness.

It met a need, having a purpose for witness.

Perhaps as we study these particular people this morning you see yourself as having the same need as one of these witnesses.

Introduction - Vss. 1-4

<sup>1</sup>Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. <sup>2</sup>By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

#### THE GOSPEL MESSAGE:

<sup>3</sup>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,

#### THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST WAS FOR:

THE DENIER - Vs. 5 -

Peter who was so adamant about his loyalty denied Christ 3 times. (see Matthew 26:70-74, Luke 23:54-62).

When Jesus arose from the dead, he appeared to Peter in Luke 24:52, and gave Peter special attention in John 21.

Peter, the denier, needed to know that he was forgiven and still useful in ministry for Christ.

<sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.

#### THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST WAS FOR:

THE DESERTER - Vs. 5 -

The Apostles are called "the twelve" even though there was now 11.

They had run when Jesus was in His darkest hour.

Jesus appeared to them with a message of Peace and commission. (See John 20:19-23).

<sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve.

#### THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST WAS FOR:

THE COMMON MAN - Vs. 6 -

Here was a group of believers who hadn't necessarily denied Christ.

They were not necessarily distinguished people.

They were probably an average cross section of people, and yet Jesus appeared to them.

This reminds me that one does not have to be special to go to Heaven, become saved, and feel the touch of the resurrection.

<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.

#### THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST WAS FOR:

THE UNBELIEVER - Vs. 7 -

This James was half-brother to Jesus. (John 7:5) tells us that His brethren didn't believe on Jesus. James was touched by the appearance of his brother.

He became a believer.

<sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,

#### THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST WAS FOR:

THE MESSENGER - Vs. 7 -

Here they are referred to as the apostles.

They saw Jesus more than once.

As apostles, they were sent as messengers with the Gospel.

The Lord commissioned them to go out in Matthew 28:18-20.

Because they had seen the risen Lord they were effective messengers for Him.

A true witness for Christ must see Him as risen, or he has no message.

<sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles,

#### THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST WAS FOR:

THE PERSECUTOR - Vss. 8-11 -

Not only did Paul not believe in Jesus, but he persecuted Jesus' followers. (See Acts 8:1 and 9:1-2).

The risen Jesus appeared to Paul on the Damascus road (Acts 9).

<sup>8</sup>and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles and do not even deserve to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether, then, it was I or they, this is what we preach, and this is what you believed.

Even those who persecute

Jesus and His followers

can be saved!

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Because of Jesus' resurrection from the dead,

we look forward to our own resurrection.

Here we find:

#### **SOMETHING DIFFERENT**

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, (1 Corinthians 15:51)

#### **SOMETHING DYNAMIC**

In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. (1 Corinthians 15:52-53)

#### SOMETHING DELIGHTFUL

So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:54-57)

#### SOMETHING DEMANDING

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

(1 Corinthians 15:58)