

Eagle Ridge Lake Elsinore — April 12, 2020

Easter Series — “The King of Kings”

Introduction

- We now understand why He came — Obedience to His Father’s Will, as was spoken about since the beginning of time. All of scripture had spoken about His arrival. He was our **“Coming King”**.
- Jesus had revealed on multiple occasions that He would have to suffer and die. Now that His earthly ministry was coming to an end, many still did not understand what He was about to do. So He entered Jerusalem one final time as our **“Misunderstood King”**.
- As we pointed out on Friday, Jesus would suffer and die on the cross to save us all from our sins. He was our **“Crucified King.”**
- But it doesn’t end there! This Easter morning we now look at what He will do that no other has done in all of history. We look at the resurrection of our **“Risen King.”**

Preface to the Resurrection

- Right after the death of Jesus, those present were Mary Magdalene, the other Mary, Salome, and the mother of Jesus, Mary.
 - The only disciple present was John **[John 19:26]**
- Why is it important to note those present at His death?
 - Because it is the same individuals who would witness His burial later on.
 - **Matthew 27:61**, “Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.”
 - And, it would be those same women who would be the first to arrive and see the empty tomb.
- It took both the religious elite and the Roman government to carry out the death of Jesus.
 - Now both would work to secure His death **[placing guards at the tomb, and securing it with a seal]**. Doing everything possible to keep Him in the grave.
 - Interesting to note that it was the Pharisees that remembered all that Jesus said about His resurrection, but Jesus’ own disciples had focused so much on his death, they forgot how many times Jesus said He would rise again. **[selective listening]**

Scripture Reading **(Matthew 28:1-10)**

1 Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. **2** And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. **3** His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. **4** And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. **5** But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you

seek Jesus who was crucified. **6** He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. **7** Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” **8** So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. **9** And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. **10** Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”

Verse 1

1 Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

- Mary Magdalene, the other Mary, and Salome went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body **[spices to help offset the odors of decomposition]**
 - According to **Mark 16**, they were unsure of how they were going to get in to the tomb.

Verses 2-4

2 And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. **3** His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. **4** And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men.

- An angel announced Jesus' birth. Now one announces His resurrection.
 - In almost every circumstance of an angel appearing, those that witness them are afraid.
 - They must be a sight to behold, but obviously they can't.
 - Simply by appearance, they cause people to fear, and in this case to faint.

Verses 5-7

5 But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. **6** He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. **7** Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.”

- **Jesus is Alive!**

- The angel reassures the women and reminds them that Jesus said He would rise of the third day.
 - **Matthew 16:21**, “From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”
 - **Matthew 17:23**, “The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day.”
 - **Matthew 20:19**, “And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day.”

- **Matthew 26:32**, “But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.”
- The beautiful picture of their arrival at the tomb.
 - Since the temple veil was torn on Friday night, The Way opened up to enter the presence of God, now on Sunday morning, the stone is rolled away making way for unencumbered entrance.
 - HOWEVER: The stone was not rolled back to allow Jesus to exit.
 - Jesus, in His resurrected state is not hindered by barriers.
 - **John 20:19**, “On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them...”
 - The stone was rolled away so that others could see and believe.
 - “The invitation to *see the place where he lay* is appropriately addressed to the same people who had watched the body being deposited – so there is no possibility of a mistake.” (Unknown)
 - The angel even tells them where to find Jesus **[Galilee]**, affirming what Jesus told the disciples prior to His death.
- God does not make it difficult for us to find Jesus.
 - He’s announced. His coordinates are always given. It’s up to us to open our eyes and ears, and go to Him.

Verses 8-10

- 8** So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.
9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. **10** Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”
- Remember what the angels announced to the shepherds in their announcement of the birth of Jesus?
 - **Luke 2:10**, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.”
 - The angel goes on to tell them exactly where to find Jesus **[Bethlehem]**
 - The shepherds went “in haste” to see baby Jesus **[come and see]**
 - And everyone who the shepherds told wondered at what they were saying **[go and tell]**
 - The shepherds glorified and praised God for all they had seen! **[worship]**
 - Here now at the tomb, the angel delivers good news of great joy that will be for all people.
 - The angel tells them exactly where to find Jesus **[Galilee]**
 - He instructs them what to do **[come and see]**
 - The women run with fear and great joy to tell the disciples what they had seen **[go and tell]**

- **Luke 24:11-12**, “but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.”
- Jesus meets the women, they grab on to His feet and begin to **worship** Him!

The Proof

- QUOTE: “The empty tomb, for all of its impressiveness and importance, is not sufficient evidence in itself for the resurrection of Jesus. What alone can be decisive is reliable eyewitness testimony that Jesus had been raised from the dead.” (Donald Hagner)
- The women saw that the tomb was empty **[4 gospels]**
- Peter and John saw that the tomb was empty **[Luke and John]**
- The guards, once they woke up, saw that the tomb was empty **[Matthew]**
 - Here’s an amazing thing to consider:
 - The Pharisees reaction to insure Jesus remained ‘dead’ **[paid off the guards to keep quiet]**
- Jesus appears to the women outside the tomb **[4 gospels]**
- Jesus appears to the 11 disciples **[Luke, John, Acts]**
- Jesus appears to 2 disciples walking on the road to Emmaus **[Mark and Luke]**
- Jesus appears to Paul and 500 others **[Acts and 1 Corinthians]**
- The disciples would go on to live out the rest of their lives proclaiming the Truth of Jesus and what they witnessed, even to death!
 - Why sacrifice your life for a lie?!

Conclusion

- Simply put...Jesus is Alive!
 - MEANING: If you put your faith and trust in Him, so will you!
 - Jesus calls us to be ‘born again’. To repent and believe the gospel.
 - **Repent = turn around.** Stop going the way you’re going. Hopeless, no purpose, etc.
 - **Romans 6:8-11**, “Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.”
- Jesus, through His death and resurrection, invites you to ‘Come and See’!
 - Come and see all that He can offer. Experience the Hope that can only be found in Jesus.
- This is what Easter is all about...LIFE!

- Our Savior is alive! He is our risen King! He is our King of Kings and Lord of Lords!
- Guess what...He Coming again!
 - **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**, “For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.”
- Are you ready?