

The Resurrection of Jesus

Pastor Tim Allen

Key Truth: Though many try to re-write the story, the Biblical record of Jesus' resurrection remains true.

In our world, it seems lies are winning the war. When we see so many people and organizations trying to twist the truth to meet their own evil ends, we can become discouraged and may even start to doubt the truth ourselves. However, when we remember that Jesus Christ was once dead and now is alive, we gain confidence that falsehood has no choice but to fall in the face of truth. Since Jesus rose from the dead, the Bible is proven true, Jesus' crucifixion is vindicated as sufficient to take away our sins, and our faith rests on a solid Scriptural, theological, historical, and supernatural foundation. No matter who tries to manipulate the truth, no one can change the fact that Jesus who was once dead, is NOW alive!

DISCUSS

Read **Matthew 27:62-28:15** and discuss with the group a statement or concept that stood out to you or impacted you in the Easter sermon on **The Resurrection of Jesus?**

DIG IN

1. The Sealed Tomb. (Matthew 27:62-66)

In verses 63-64, what was the concern shared by the religious leaders? What does that say about their view of Jesus and the disciples?

What specific actions the Pilate and the religious leaders take to "secure" the tomb (vv. 65-66)? In what ways do we try to "secure" our surroundings? Why are those ways futile?

2. The Empty Tomb. (Matthew 28:1-10)

Describe the events of the morning as they occurred, and as documented by Matthew in verses 1-2:

What caused the guards to tremble and become "like dead men" (vv. 3-4)?

What message did the angel convey to the women (vv. 5-7)?

Why do you think it was possible for the grieving women suddenly to experience "fear and great joy" (v. 8)?

Why do you think it is significant that the risen Jesus reiterated what the angel had said previously (v. 10)?

3. The Fabricated Story. (Matthew 28:11-15)

Explain the conspiracy concocted by the religious officials (vv. 12-14). Why was this fabrication unable to thwart the gospel message carried on by the disciples? In what ways does gospel truth destroy the lies that are told today?

DO

In what ways will you put what you've learned into practice this week?