

What do You See in The Resurrection

John 20:1-10 - The Empty Tomb

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple out ran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Intro...

- In John 20, you find the story of Easter and the empty tomb, yet when you investigate further you discover it's also the story of 3 people and how each of them viewed the resurrection!
- Jesus had been in the grave 3 days. After they had taken Him off the cross, they wrapped His body in linen grave clothes and laid Him in Joseph's new tomb.
- It was now Sunday, the first day of the week when Mary Magdalene showed up at the sepulcher. When she got there, the stone was taken away and Jesus' body wasn't there.
- She ran back and found Peter and John and said, "They've taken His body and we don't know where they've laid Him."
- Both Peter and John began to run to the grave – John got there first and looked in. About that time Peter pressed his way through the entrance and John followed.

- There they were – the linen grave clothes were still where they’d been when they’d laid Jesus body to rest, but the piece that had been around His head was in a separate place by itself.

It’s interesting that though Mary, Peter and John witnessed the same empty tomb, their responses were drastically different:

1. **Mary** saw and believed *His body was stolen*.
2. **John** saw and believed that *He’d risen*.
3. Scripture seems to indicate that **Peter** saw and *didn’t know what to believe*.

Isn’t it amazing how people can **look at the SAME THING** and see something totally different?

An artist, preacher and a cowboy stood at the edge of the Grand Canyon:

1. **Artist** – “What a beautiful scene to paint.”
2. **Preacher** – “What a wonderful example of the handiwork of God.”
3. **Cowboy** – “What a terrible place to lose a cow.”

I wonder what you see when you look at the empty tomb?

1. Maybe a conspiracy by Jesus’ disciples to protect His claim!
2. Maybe just another story in the Bible that may or may not be true!
3. Maybe you don’t see anything at all – means nothing to you!

I can’t speak for anybody else, but since I’m the preacher and I’ve got the mic I want to talk about what I see when I look at the resurrection!

I. I See A God That’s Alive...

- *He’s not dead*, He’s yet alive!
- There’s *an empty tomb* in Jerusalem to prove it!

I don't know about your God:

1. Buddha died, they buried him, but he's still dead!
2. Hairy Christna died, they buried him, but he's still dead!
3. Jesus died, they buried Him, but on the third day, etc.!

Revelation 1:18

¹⁸ I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

- **Because He lives**, He's become my counselor, advocate, defense attorney, healer, refuge, Lord, savior, redeemer, king, rock, counselor, father, keeper, master, teacher, and my intercessor!
- **Do you have a need today? He's ALIVE!**

Hebrews 7:25 -Therefore **he is able to save completely** those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

II. I See An Enemy That's Defeated...

- **He's REAL all right!**
- He's known in Scripture by many names – Dragon, Satan, Serpent, Adversary, Devil, Wicked One!
- **Through his hatred toward God sin came as he attacked God's very creation.**

Romans 5:12 - Death Through Adam, Life Through Christ

¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned—

- The devil **thought he won** at Calvary; the cross was his ultimate victory.
- He didn't know **in 3 days Jesus was coming out** with the keys in his hand!

Jesus was dead for 3 days – what did He do from Friday to Sunday?

1. Invaded his territory!
2. Overcame his power!
3. Destroyed his weapons!
4. Spoiled his house!

Colossians 2:15 - ¹⁵ And ***having disarmed the powers and authorities***, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

- The resurrection says – ***“The Devil Is Defeated”!***

III. I See A Gospel That’s Powerful...

Colossians 2:12 -having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

- The gospel is more than a story about His DEATH and BURIAL – ***it’s about His RESURRECTION!***
- This thing is **MORE than just REPENTANCE and BAPTISM** – ***it’s about the POWER that His SPIRIT brings!***
- Paul said: **Rom.6:3-4** - when we were baptized into Christ we’re baptized into His death and BURIED with Him in BAPTISM. And as Christ was RAISED from the dead we also are ***we raised to WALK in NEWNESS of LIFE.***
- When I look at the resurrection I see a gospel that has power to change a life!

2 Corinthians 5:17 - *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!*

- **That’s what the Holy Ghost can do for you** – gives you power you’ve never had before – power over sin, flesh, world!
- **The resurrection life** is an overcoming life!

IV. I See A Hope That's Sure...

1 Peter 1:21 - Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and **hope** are in God.

- We have a **HOPE** – because He was raised we're going to be raised!

1Cor.15:19-23 - *"If in this life only we have **HOPE** we'd be of all men most miserable. But **Christ** is RISEN from the dead and **become** the **FIRSTFRUITS** of them that **slept**. By man came death, but by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be **MADE ALIVE**".*

First-fruits – to the VERY FIRST harvest (reaping) of a crop.

- The "**first-fruit**" is an indication of what's to follow!
- The point is that Jesus' resurrection is the FIRST of many more that are going to be raised when the trump sounds.

"The dead in Christ shall rise."

- His resurrection guarantees our resurrection!
- ***"I have hope in Jesus!"***

V. I See A Promise That's Beyond Description...

The empty tomb says ***He's gone to prepare a place for those that love Him!***

John 14:1 - *Jesus said, "Let not your hearts be troubled,*

What's it like?

Paul said, 1 Cor. 2:9 - However, as it is written: "What **no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived**" — the things God has prepared for those who love him

John tried his best to describe it:

1. The city lies 4 square
2. 12 foundations – one for each of the Apostles
3. 12 gates – 3 on each side of the city
4. Walls of jasper - Gates of pearl - Streets of gold

John said, “The only way I can describe it is by telling you what’s not there!”

No more PAIN, SORROW, SICKNESS, DEATH, TEARS, CRYING, HUNGER, THIRST, SEA, SUN, MOON, NIGHT, SIN, DECEIVER, CONDEMNATION, SEPERATION, TIME!

What a reunion day – we’ll never have to say GOOD BYE again!

Closing

Romans 8:11 - ¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you.

- ***If you’ve not received His Spirit, you can today!***
 - What I See When I Look At The Resurrection
 - I See A God That’s Alive...
 - I See An Enemy That’s Defeated...
 - I See A Gospel That’s Powerful...
 - I See A Hope That’s Sure...
 - I See A Promise That’s Beyond Description...

It’s Sunday, and **Jesus is alive**, but where can I find Him?

To find him you must know something about Him.

- To know Him, you must be more than acquainted to Him.
- It’s Easter Sunday... **Do You Know Him?**

It’s Sunday and Jesus isn’t in the tomb, so where could he really be?

- Where is Jesus? - Where is our Lord? - Where is my savior?

He’s right here, Don’t you feel Him???

- He’s always been here among us...
- Don’t you feel His awesome presence?
- It’s Sunday, **Do you want to find Jesus?**

Jesus is my savior – because he died for my sins.

- It's Sunday, **do you need a savior?**

Jesus is my healer – the stripes he took on His back, took care of all sickness.

- It's Sunday, **do you need a healer?**

Jesus is my deliverer –

- **deliver from** depression, drugs, gambling, alcohol.
- It's Sunday, **do you need a deliverer?**

Jesus is my forgiver – he forgives sin.

- He forgives what we can't let go of.
- He forgives what we can't stop thinking about.
- He forgives any sin no matter how horrible it is....Jesus forgives.
- It's Sunday, **do you need a forgiver?**

Jesus is my refuge –

- He's there when I need someone to talk to.
- He's there when I need a friend.
- It's Sunday, **do you need a refuge?**

Jesus is the marriage counselor –

- He can put your marriage back together.
- It's Sunday, **do you need a marriage counselor?**

It's Sunday, Have you found Jesus?

It's Sunday, do you know Jesus?

Religion will not help you.

You might be here today and you call yourself

Pentecostal, Baptist, Catholic, Assembly of God, or Presbyterian.

- That's all good, but what I want to know is, ***have you found Jesus?????***

Easter Sunday is not about anything else, but finding Jesus...

- **I encourage you to find Jesus.**
- **He's everything you will ever need...**

