

EASTER

EXPLAINED

March 19, 2023 | Aaron Cloud

I. The Tension & Truth of the Empty Tomb

Two Key Questions:

1. Will we believe in the truth of the resurrection? Luke 24:1, 11
2. Why does the resurrection matter?

The Resurrection is Core to Jesus' Identity & Mission

- Jesus himself CLAIMED as the Messiah that he would die & rise again.

Luke 9:20-22, 18:31-34

- The resurrection is a fulfillment of PROPHECIES about Jesus.

Luke 24:44

II. Resurrection Meaning & Significance

The Resurrection: 1 Corinthians 15:1-28

1. Is CORE & foundational to the gospel. 1 Corinthians 15:1-8
2. Is the ROOT of our hope. 1 Corinthians 15:12-28, 54 & Isaiah 25:6-8
3. TRANSFORMATIVE. 1 Corinthians 15:9-11, Galatians 2:20
4. CULTIVATES steadfast living & gospel urgency. 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

III. Reflecting & Responding

- Reflect: How is the truth of the resurrection SIGNIFICANT in your life & faith?
- Respond in BELIEF & trust by following Jesus.
- Respond in Worship: The resurrection should cause us to respond in PRAISE AND WORSHIP. Luke 24:50-53

THE BIG 3

THREE THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

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DISCUSSION & REFLECTION- Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-28, 15:54-58

1. Do you think the resurrection of Jesus is a teaching that people in our day & age struggle to believe? Why do you think this is so?
2. If you were to explain to someone why you believe in Jesus' death & resurrection, how might you explain it to them?
3. Paul describes the gospel as a teaching that is of the "first importance" (1 Cor. 15:3). Why do you think Paul describes it as something of the utmost importance?
4. In 1 Corinthians 15:4-8, Paul mentions numerous people that Jesus appeared to. Why do you think this is significant? In what ways does it lend credibility to the truth of the resurrection?
5. In 1 Corinthians 15:54-55, Paul says that death has been swallowed up in victory & that death has lost its sting. How does the resurrection remove that sting of death?
6. Look at 1 Corinthians 15:58. How does the truth of the resurrection help you stand firm in your faith?
7. Spend a few minutes in prayer reflecting on the hope of the resurrection. Express your thankfulness to God for His grace & mercy in sending Jesus to die for us.
8. Is there a takeaway & action step that you want to implement in your life based on the last couple weeks of teaching on the crucifixion & resurrection?

BAPTISM CLASS

TODAY at 11 a.m, Pastor Ryan will be leading a baptism class in Room 220. Pastor Nathan will be leading a class for kids (K-5th grade) in Room 210 at the same time. We'll celebrate the baptisms during the morning services on Sunday, April 16. Sign-up at the Info Center or call the church office at 605-692-6671.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

Prayer Stations - Come & Go
Wednesday, April 5 - 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 6 - 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday, April 7 - 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Communion
Thursday, April 6 - Come & Go, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service of Shadows
Friday, April 7 - 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m.