

Ridin' High Cowboy Church

8771 FM 35

Union Valley/Royse City, TX

Pastor: Steve Bishop

**“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to
a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to
an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading,
kept in heaven for you.”**

Peter 1:3-4

Sunday, April 16, 2017

The Resurrection

What Easter is not:

A celebration of Christianity

A celebration of the teachings of Jesus

It's a celebration of an event

Easter is a celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

So this morning, we are going to simply read the Resurrection account:

4 accounts of the resurrection

Not told as a fairytale

None of his followers expected a resurrection

Better ending would have been: if all lost hope and they lost faith. All of his followers assumed Jesus would stay dead.

Luke 23: 50-56; Luke 24:1-12; Acts 2

50 Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man,

51 who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea and he was waiting for the kingdom of God. In his mind he kept thinking God is going to send us a messiah.

In his mind, he kept thinking God is going to send us a messiah.

Joseph – against the actions taken against Jesus

52 Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body. 53 The he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid.

Brand new tomb, for wealthy people

Proper way to bury in 1st century;

Take the body and wash it, anoint it with oil, saturate the cloth with oil.

Generally, the women do this work, the men just wrapped the body and put in the tomb. The problem was it was the day before Passover and they had to work quickly...before the sun went down.

54 It was Preparation day, (all work had to be done on this day, no work on the Sabbath) and the Sabbath was about to begin.

55 The women who had come with Jesus from Galilee followed Joseph and saw the tomb and his body was laid in it.

56 Then they went home and prepared spices and perfumes. But they rested on the Sabbath in obedience to the commandment.

A group of women saw this and said this isn't the right way to do this:

24:1 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.

Very early – as soon as the sun comes up

2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Away from the tomb, not beside it but thrown from the area

4 While they were wondering about this, (resurrection never crossed their minds) suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

5 In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?"

Cause we thought he was dead, we saw it, we know he died

6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 7 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.'

As you read the gospels you know he talked about this often and the disciples just refused to listen. Peter even said that will never happen. 'After all, you raised people from the dead, you know their thoughts, how can they sneak up on you.'

8 Then they remembered his words.

9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.

They were huddled together thinking, “If they killed our leader, what is going to happen to us?”

11 But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

Why didn't they believe? They were not expecting the resurrection, they saw him beaten almost to death and then die on the cross, no heroes here.

12 Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

Even seeing this, Peter wondered, what if he really rose from the dead. If he rose this changes everything. If he did everything he said about himself is true. Everything he said about God is true. Everything he said about his life and death is true, everything he said about me being able to talk to God is true. What he said about paying for my sin is true. If he rose from the dead, he is in fact the unique Son of God.

Even Peter's sin of denying Jesus was forgiven.

We know from what happened a few weeks later right there in Jerusalem, that Peter spoke with Jesus himself.

Acts 2

22 “People of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know.

You saw Jesus and his miracles and he was sent by God

23 This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.

These were the people who saw the crucifixion; they listened to the Sermon on the Mount...

24 But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

32 God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact.

We don't believe because we believe it, we saw it with our own eyes.

36 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."

37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" They are saying you're right, we were wrong about Jesus...

38 Peter replied, "Repent (change your mind and actions **and be baptized (go public with your decision), **every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins.** (Even the sin of killing the Son of God) that day over 3,000 people declared that Jesus is the Son of God sent to save us from sin **and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.****