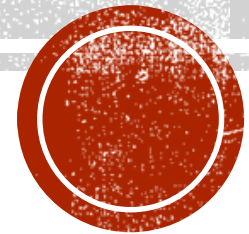


THE SIGNIFICANCE OF EASTER

Mark 16:1-8



¹ When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. ² Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³ and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

⁴ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.



⁶ “Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

⁸ Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.



WHY IS EASTER SIGNIFICANT



³³ When they heard this, they were furious and wanted to put them to death. ³⁴ But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law, who was honored by all the people, stood up in the Sanhedrin and ordered that the men be put outside for a little while. ³⁵ Then he addressed the Sanhedrin: “Men of Israel, consider carefully what you intend to do to these men. ³⁶ Some time ago Theudas appeared, claiming to be somebody, and about four hundred men rallied to him. He was killed, all his followers were dispersed, and it all came to nothing.

Acts 5



EASTER CONFIRMS: THAT JESUS IS WHO HE SAID HE WAS

- 1. Jesus claimed to be God**
- 2. Jesus claimed that he had always existed and that he would always exist.**
- 3. Jesus claimed that the world and everything in it belongs to him and would someday be ruled by him.**



EASTER CONFIRMS: NO SITUATION IS BEYOND GOD'S POWER

- Your dreams
- Your hopes
- A relationship
- A vision
- What seems to be spinning out of control?



EASTER CONFIRMS: GOD'S FORGIVENESS IS AVAILABLE TO ALL

- It was open to Peter
- It is open to you, no matter who you are or what you have done.
- God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God in Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:21



TO GO

- Why is Easter significant to you?
- Where in your life do you need to experience the power of the resurrection today?
- How should you honor the one who gave his life to save you?

