

Sermon Notes – April 1, 2018

The Story of Easter from Mark 16

(1) “When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome brought spices, so that they might go and anoint Him. (2) And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. (3) And they were saying to one another, ‘Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?’ (4) And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – it was very large. (5) And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. (6) And he said to them, ‘Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, 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 that He is going before you to Galilee. There you will see Him, just as He told you. (8) And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.”

Why This Story Matters

- ⇒ One writer calls the resurrection of Christ “a _____ and crowning credential,” noting that “without Easter, there is no Christianity.” (Groothuis)
- ⇒ If Jesus came merely to make us all feel better as we ride this small speck of planetary dust into an ultimate sea of cosmic nothingness, then this whole thing is a bust from the start.
- ⇒ “If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain...If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be _____.” (The Apostle Paul, in I Corinthians 15:14 & 19)
- ⇒ A word about the truthfulness of the biblical account:
 - The first visitors to the tomb are _____.
 - They’re expecting to find the _____ of Jesus.
 - They are _____ at the sight of an angel, _____ at the thought of resurrection, and they run like scared _____. They are not “easy believers.”

The Lamb Who is Worshipped

Pastor Jay Mosser

Mark 16:1-8; Revelation 5:6-10

Christ Came as “the Lamb of God” to Take Away Sin

- ⇒ Exodus 12 – The Jewish world is familiar with the _____.
- ⇒ Isaiah 53:4-6 – The prophet speaks of the coming Messiah as a “lamb led to slaughter.”
- ⇒ John 1:29 – John the Baptist sees Jesus and announces, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the _____.”
- ⇒ I Peter 2:24 – “He Himself bore _____ in His body on the tree...”

Christ “the Lamb of God” Will Be Worshiped Forever

(Revelation 5:6-10)

- ⇒ In this text, the future of planet Earth is “on hold” until One is found who deserves to “open the scroll.” Only Christ deserves this great honor.
- ⇒ For centuries parents have been saying to their kids, “_____ you’ll understand...”; I think heaven will be like that, only much better.
- ⇒ According to Peter, the angels watched the events of Jesus’ life, death, & resurrection unfold and “_____” into what was going on. Jesus said that an _____ was ready to deliver Him at a moment’s notice. And angels will worship Christ for His victory. (I Peter 1:10-12; Matthew 26:53)
- ⇒ A suggestion: Memorize Revelation 5:13 – all the redeemed will one day sing this great song and you might as well know the words in advance!

Responding to God’s Word – a reprise from last week

- ⇒ **Get personal:** Do you see it? Christ went to the cross in your place. The cross He bore was yours. The nails were yours. The suffering was yours. Those who trust Christ as their sin-bearer, are forgiven by God. II Cor. 5:21; Ephesians 2:8-9; I Peter 2:24
- ⇒ **Check your faith:** The gospel is “Christ alone” – not Christ + your goodness. Have you allowed yourself to be impressed by your good behavior or your evident humility or your moral superiority to others (who are clearly worse than you are)? Have you forgotten that forgiveness for your sins comes by grace alone...by faith alone...in Christ alone? Zero percent of it is due to your good works and good behavior. Are you trusting Christ and Him ALONE?