

WHY WEEPEST THOU HE IS RISEN

JOHN 20:15

Text: John 20:15; Matthew 28:6-7

John 20:15

Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

Matthew 28:6-7

He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.

Introduction:

There are certain days in the timeline of history that have special meaning and significance. These are days that changed the lives of people either for good or for bad. In our generation, the first moon walk in July 1969, the assassination of President John Kennedy in 1963, and more recently, the September 11th terrorist attack on America, qualify as life changing days. But there was one day that changed life on Earth like no

other before or since. It was the first Easter the morning of Christ's resurrection.

The question in our text, "Woman why weepst thou?" was a personal question to Mary. Certainly there have been oceans of tears shed since that first Easter morning. But because of that morning, all tears will one day be wiped away for the last time.

Rev. 21:4

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

How did the resurrection of Christ change everything?
Notice

1. IT WAS A MORNING OF A NEW KIND OF PAIN (HE IS NOT HERE)

Pain and suffering have been a constant since the Fall in Eden. But for the disciples, the death of Christ must have been a most cruel pain.

A. He had been their leader.

Matthew 4:19

And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

Matthew 8:27

But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!

Matthew 9:9

And as Jesus passed forth from thence, he saw a man, named Matthew, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he saith unto him, Follow me. And he arose, and followed him.

Matthew 16:24

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Matthew 19:21

Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

Mark 2:14

And as he passed by, he saw Levi the son of Alphaeus sitting at the receipt of custom, and said unto him, Follow me. And he arose and followed him.

Mark 8:34

And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Mark 10:21

Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

Luke 5:27

And after these things he went forth, and saw a publican, named Levi, sitting at the receipt of custom: and he said unto him, Follow me.

Luke 9:23

And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

Luke 9:59

And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

John 1:43

The day following Jesus would go forth into Galilee, and findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow me.

John 10:27

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

John 12:26

If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.

1. He spoke with authority

Matthew 7:29

For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

Mark 1:22

And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

Mark 1:27

And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

Luke 4:36

And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word is this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.

John 5:27

And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.

2. He spoke with authenticity.

John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

John 1:17

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

B. He had been their friend.

Matthew 11:19

The Son of man came eating and drinking, and they say, Behold a man gluttonous, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners. But wisdom is justified of her children.

John 11:11

These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.

Luke 12:4

And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.

John 15:13

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

Illustration: Words of the song “What a friend we have in Jesus”

2. IT WAS A MORNING OF A NEW KIND OF POWER (FOR HE IS RISEN)

They had seen with their own eyes when Jesus raised Lazarus and others from the dead. He possessed power that had not been seen since the Old Testaments prophets. But Jesus was far greater than any of the prophets, for none of them had power to raise themselves from the dead.

A. It was a power over the Devil

Hebrews 2:14

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

1 John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

B. It was power over death

1 Cor. 15:20

But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.

1 Cor. 15:22

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

1 Cor. 15:53-55

For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 55O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

3. IT WAS A MORNING OF A NEW KIND OF PROMISE (THERE SHALL YE SEE HIM)

Before this special Easter morning no one expected to see their dead loved ones again. There was no hope for those who stood among the tombs and mourned their dead loved ones. But when Christ rose from the grave all things changed. It brought with it a new promise.

A. The promise of a victorious life.

1 Cor. 15:57

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

B. The promise of a vision of Christ

1 Cor. 15:51-54

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

Illustration:

There's coming a wonderful, wonderful day
Its glory has never been known;
When free from our burden we're going away,
As Jesus returns for His own,
And carries us up to His throne

There'll be no more sadness,
But all will be gladness,
When Jesus returns for His own.

Close:

Read the words of "He Arose"