

Intro:

- Today all over the world we are celebrating the good news. We are rejoicing in the fact that our Resurrected Redeemer lives!
- Easter is more than a spring time holiday, an opportunity to buy some nice clothes, egg hunts, and candy bunnies!

I) Easter is Good News!

The Apostle Paul clarifies for the church of Corinth what this Good News is all about:

1 Corinthians 15:1-9 NLT

"Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place. I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him. For I am the least of all the apostles. In fact, I'm not even worthy to be called an apostle after the way I persecuted God's church."

The Good News has three parts to it:

A). Jesus Died for our Sins

- Because of Adam, All of Mankind had a Sin Problem
- Romans 3:23 for all have send and fall short of the glory of God
- Romans 6:23 for the wages of sin is death
- Because of sin Satan has access to our lives to steal kill and destroy
- He brings sickness, poverty, addiction and dysfunction to destroy our lives and ultimately keep us disconnected from God
- "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." II Corinthians 5:21 NKJV

B). Jesus was Buried

- In him all of my sin is buried all my faults, failures and flaws
- Too many let the old man hijack their new life
- Let the Dead bury the Dead
- Don't go digging up dead things!!!
- If any man be in Christ he is a new creature old things have passed away!

Romans 6:3-4 NKJV

"Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

C). Jesus Rose Again

Galatians 2:20 NKJV

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

We Identify:

1. We die through Repentance
2. We are buried through Baptism
3. We arise from the Baptismal Waters a new creation to walk out the newness of Life
 - This is the Good News!!
 - The Gospel is Complete
 - As we think about the Risen Lord, I want to take you into Resurrection Morning

II) Look Again

"Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you.""

Matthew 28:1-7 NKJV

- A. Mary Magdalene and Mary went to see the Tomb
- B. We see them at the end of the previous chapter sitting opposite the tomb

Matthew 27:57-61 NKJV

"Now when evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him. When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed. And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb."

- C. Chapter 28 They Look Again
- D. There is another Chapter for you
- E. People get stuck in the previous chapter of life and they don't look again
- F. The Danger of the First Look:
 - we judge things based only on the first look
 - We make decisions based only on the first look
 - We build mindsets based only on the first look
 - We develop attitudes based only on the first look
 - We make plans based only on the first look: i.e. Relationships, Dr. Report, Bank Loan etc.
- G. Why did they go back to Look Again

- The Bible tells us they went back to anoint his body but perhaps they had faith to believe that what he said was true!

H. With Faith we can look again

- at our marriages, families, health, financial condition, our lives,
- Because of the Power of the Resurrection what was dead can come alive, what was hopeless now has hope
- We can look again with eyes of faith and believe what looks impossible is now possible