



Series: Easter
Easter Sunday
Read John 20:1-28
Speaker: Pastor Jeff Bucknam

Check out the sermon here: <https://northview.org/easter-service-2020/>

A Note from Pastor Dan: Hello! Welcome to our sermon reflection. This is intended for you to spend time reflecting upon the weekend teaching of God’s Word . So, it’s important to have watched or listened to the message from the previous weekend. In the coming weeks, I would encourage you to use one of our Sermon Guides as you watch/listen to the sermon in order to keep focused and to note important information. As you work through this lesson, feel free to ask your parents any questions and include them in your observations.

**Quotes from Jeff’s sermon will be outlined in this colour.

⇒ **Initial Observation:**

The Bible: Some Weird Stories in there!

- Snakes talk, sea parted, fish swallow men whole & then spit them up, donkeys talk, guys outrun chariots; thin bread(manna) appear every morning for 40 years a virgin gives birth, men walk on water, coins are found in the mouths of fish, and baskets of bread are multiplied.
- Many understand these stories as myths that have developed over the years

⇒ **Point:** Jeff’s point is that while all of those stories may appear crazy,

nothing is as remarkable or outrageous as Jesus rising from the dead. And in fact if that one is true, then I don’t have a whole lot of trouble believing the others.

Jeff’s 3 points:

1. There’s no question that this happened
2. There’s no need for crying
3. There’s no way that we can stay the same

Point #1 There's no question that this happened

- **Read: John 20:1-4 (NIV)**

The Empty Tomb

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance.² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

- Mary Magdalene had witnessed the crucifixion while many had run away, she has been grieving fri & sat night
- While the other gospels speak of other women going to the tomb, John highlights Mary
- She was going to anoint Jesus' body with spices to delay decay
- It is a remarkable thing that the stone has been moved. Just not because of the weight of the stone, but also because that they had put a legal seal on it & we know from the other gospels that it was being guarded by Roman soldiers.
- The worry was that Jesus' body was taken to steal the linen that he had been wrapped in in.
- The fact that it recounts that John outran Peter shows that this is the kind of statement that only eye witnesses give. This is the kind of specificity that only eye-witnesses give.

Point #2 There's no need for crying

- ▶ **Read John 20:3-7 (NIV)**

³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen.

- No surprise that Peter bursts in. He was always impulsive!
- The linen from the body and the head covering were lying in a way which means that the body of Jesus probably passed through the linens.
- A little later Jesus' body is going to pass through the walls as He comes to see the disciples.
- In a Jewish court of law there needs to be 2 or more witnesses and the fact that John & Peter were there satisfies this legal requirement. It is important for John that we realize this.
- The fact that the valuable linens are still there demonstrate that it was not a simple robbery.

- ▶ **Read: John 20:8-9 (NIV)**

⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

- At this point John is not interested in clearly explaining why the cross had to happen, there is no clever theological explanation.

• Jeff made note that John was not trying to explain the “**Hypostatic Union**” “Hypostatic union” sounds fancy in English, but it’s actually a simple term. *Hypostatic* means *personal*. The *hypostatic union* is the *personal union* of Jesus’s two natures. Jesus has two complete natures: one fully human and one fully divine. What the doctrine of the hypostatic union teaches is that these *two natures* are united in *one person* in the God-man. Jesus is not two persons. He is one person. The hypostatic union is the joining (mysterious though it be) of the divine and the human in the one person of Jesus.

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/what-is-the-hypostatic-union>

- John didn’t totally get it yet, but he believed!

► **Read: John 20:10-13 (NIV)**

¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

“They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.”

- if you saw angels, you would be freaked out, but Mary is overwhelmed by her grief because she still believes that Jesus’ body was stolen

► **Read: John 20:13-14 (NIV)**

¹³ They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

“They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

- There was something about Jesus’ resurrected body that took people a bit to realize who he was.
- There was something about Jesus’ glorified body that caused people to first pause in their recognition.

► **Read: John 20:15-16 (NIV)**

¹⁵ He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”).

- Both the angels and Jesus ask Mary why is she crying? There was no concern for grief.
- Death is conquered, Jesus is risen
- Resurrection boldness

1 Corinthians 15:55 (NIV)

⁵⁵ *“Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?”*

Point #3 There's no way that we can stay the same

► **John 20:17-18 (NIV)**

¹⁷ *Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”*

¹⁸ *Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.*

- Mary went from darkness, grief to boldness and proclamation of the truth of Jesus' resurrection

► **Read: John 20:19-23 New International Version (NIV)**

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

¹⁹ *On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”* ²⁰ *After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.*

²¹ *Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”* ²² *And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”*

- In the same way that Mary was changed after witnessing Jesus, so too are the disciples lives changed and they go on to become mighty missionaries as we read the book of Acts

► **Read: John 20:24-28 (NIV)**

Jesus Appears to Thomas

²⁴ *Now Thomas (also known as Didymus^[a]), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!”*

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ *A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”* ²⁷ *Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.”*

²⁸ *Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!”*

- Thomas makes a huge Christological statement affirming who Jesus is
- Let that truth impact your own life
- “He is risen, he is risen indeed”