

We Are Glad *You* Are Here

Sunday, April 5, 2026



sermon: "Resurrection: A reason to Rejoice" - John 20:1-20

Big Idea: Rejoice, Jesus is risen!

I. Rejoice: Hope Restored

- A. The disciples were despondent. Jesus had been crucified and buried. It's clear that even Jesus' closest followers did not yet understand the glorious truth of the resurrection (v. 9; cf. Mk.9:30-32). But how everything changes from despair to joy when we grasp and believe in the resurrection of Messiah Jesus (vv. 16-17, 20).
- B. Where do we place our hope? Do we even have any hope? The resurrection gives us real hope, not as the world gives, but only as God can give. Why?
 - 1. Because we serve the living God (v. 20; cf. 1 Tim. 4:9-10). – Our hope is not in some abstract philosophy or dead guru.
 - 2. Because we serve the loving God (v. 20; cf. Jn. 20:24-29) – Jesus did not leave his disciples in the dark but showed them convincing proofs that He was physically risen.

II. Rejoice: Victory Realized

- A. The resurrection also is a cause to rejoice because it clearly demonstrates Jesus' victory over sin and death and it validates all of God's promises:
 - 1. Victory – Jesus' resurrection is the final victory over sin and death (cf. Acts 2:22-24; 1 Cor. 15:54-57). His victory is our victory!
 - 2. Vindication – Jesus' resurrection is a vindication of all He claimed and a validation of all God's promises (cf. Jn. 2:18- 22).

III. Rejoice: Future Revealed

- A. Finally, Jesus' resurrection is a cause to rejoice because in it we see a revealing of our own future (cf. 1 Pet. 1:3-4). We are not people who have no hope, who see this life as everything we will ever have. In Christ, our future is secure; our hope is alive and well placed. Do you have a living hope that fills you with joy nothing can quench?

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