

**Steve Greenberg's Handout April 4, 2026, Sun 8:30-10:30am**

**Title: What Does The Resurrection Mean?**

**Resurrection Sunday (also known as **Easter Sunday**) is the celebration of Jesus Christ rising from the dead on the third day after His crucifixion. While Palm Sunday marks the beginning of His journey to the cross, Resurrection Sunday marks His ultimate victory over sin and death. Today we celebrate the most powerful moment in history—the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are reminded that the grave is not the end, and death does not have the final word, He has risen!**

**The Foundation of Faith: It is considered the most important event in Christianity, as the entire faith hinges on the reality of the empty tomb.**

**Victory Over Death: It proves Jesus' claim to be the Son of God (**God, second person in the trinity**) and the Savior of the world who has the power to defeat death.**

**Promise of Eternal Life: His resurrection is viewed as the "firstfruits," guaranteeing that those who believe in Him will also be raised to eternal life.**

**1. While the disciples hid, the religious leaders are nervous they remembered Jesus' words better than his followers did. They secured the tomb with a Roman seal and a guard unit.**

**Mat 27:62 On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate,**

**Mat 27:63 saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise.'**

**Mat 27:64 "Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first."**

**Mat 27:65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how."**

**Mat 27:66 So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard (so no one could break in).**

**2. Some women waiting for the earliest light of the first day of the week (after the Sabbath), the women (Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome) headed to the tomb with spices to finish the burial rites.**

**Mar 16:1 Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.**

**3. The earth-shaking event: Divine Intervention. A great earthquake occurred as an angel of the Lord rolled back the stone not to let Jesus out (He was already gone), but to let the witnesses in.**

**Mat 28:2 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.**

**Mat 28:3 His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow.**

**Mat 28:4 And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.**

**The Scene: An earthquake hits. An angel rolls the stone back and literally sits on it and the guards "become like dead men" from fear.**

**If God can roll away the stone...He can move whatever is standing in your way. If He can bring life out of a grave...He can bring new life into your situation.**

**Application: While the world was panicking, the angel was relaxing showing us God was in control, we can rest and trust in God and His promises**

**4. The empty shroud and a folded face cloth:**

**Peter and John ran to the tomb. John saw the linen cloths lying there and the face cloth folded by itself—evidence of a calm, orderly exit, not a robbery at the grave (John 20:1–8).**

**Jhn 20:1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.**

**Jhn 20:2 Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."**

**Jhn 20:3 Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb.**

**Jhn 20:4 So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first.**

**Jhn 20:5 And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in.**

**Jhn 20:6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there,**

**Jhn 20:7 and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.**

**Jhn 20:8 Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed.**

**What looked like defeat was actually victory.**

**The women walking to the tomb were worried about one thing: "Who will roll away the stone for us?" (Mark 16:3). By the time they arrived, God had already handled it.**

**The Resurrection is a physical, historical fact verified by empty grave clothes.**

The grave couldn't hold Him, He overcame death and because of that, nothing can hold us, Jesus is our all in all (Col 3:11).

### **5. Jesus First Appearance: Mary Magdalene Sees the Risen Lord**

**Mary in the Garden: Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene. She didn't recognize Him until He spoke her name. This fulfilled the promise that "His sheep hear His voice" (John 10:27).**

**Jhn 20:11 But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb.**

**Jhn 20:12 And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.**

**Jhn 20:13 Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."**

**Jhn 20:14 Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus.**

**Jhn 20:15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."**

**Jhn 20:16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher).**

**Jhn 20:17 Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren (Jesus calls them family despite their desertion) and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.' "**

**Jhn 20:18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.**

Jesus knows your name even when you don't recognize Him.

Jesus meets first with a grieving woman. Mary's world changes from sadness to joy and clings and holds onto Jesus. The Resurrection begins with a personal encounter that turns grief into joy.

Maybe you walked in today: discouraged, sad, fearful with unanswered questions? But hear this clearly, the resurrection means God is still writing your story. Your life is not over—it's being redeemed.

The cross proves He loves you (Rom 5:8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.).

The empty tomb proves His power (Rom 1:4 and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead).

**Jesus death paid for all our sins: past present and future.**

**2Cor 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.**

**Because of the resurrection, we can endure suffering, not fear death, and walk in boldness.**

**Eph 1:20 which He(God) worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,**

**His resurrection and seated at the right hand of the Father proved the payment was accepted.**

## **6. Jesus on The Road to Emmaus**

**Luk 24:19 And He(Jesus) said to them, "What things?" So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people,**

**Luk 24:20 "and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him.**

**Luk 24:21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.**

**Luk 24:25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!**

**Luk 24:26 "Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"**

**Luk 24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. (He explained the OT prophecies (like Isaiah 53 and Psalm 22) showing why the Messiah had to suffer and rise)**

**Luk 24:32 And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"**

**Luk 24:34 saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon (Peter)!"**

**Luk 24:35 And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.**

**These disciples were walking away from Jerusalem (the place of the promise) because they were heartbroken. Today, you might be on your own Road to Emmaus. You're discouraged, you're confused, open the scriptures and remember Jesus has risen, He has given you life, and promises through His Word, what looks like failure is actually victory at the cross and resurrection. We have eternal life and can live the abundant resurrection life now today. Jhn 10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.**

## **7. Jesus witness after the resurrection**

Acts 1:3 to whom He(**Jesus**) also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days (**after He resurrected**) and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

1Cor 15:5 and that (**after the resurrection**) He(**Jesus**) was seen by Cephas (Pater), then by the twelve.

1Cor 15:6 After that He(**Jesus**) was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.

1Cor 15:7 After that He was seen by James (**half-brother who previously did not believe**), then by all the apostles.

1Cor 15:8 Then last of all He was seen by me(**Paul**) also, as by one born out of due time.

When your circumstances look like a "Dead End," go back to the Scriptures. When you see Jesus in the Scriptures, your perspective turns from you into what Jesus in you can do and His mission. Col 1:27 To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Tit 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ,

The resurrection points us forward to the return of Christ to the earth, to eternal life, and to our reunion with loved ones.

Jhn 11:25 Jesus said to her (Martha), "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.

Jhn 11:26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

## **8. Because Jesus lives, we shall live also. The "sting of death" is gone. So, Go into all the world and preach the gospel and make disciples.**

1Cor 15:55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

1Cor 15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law.

1Cor 15:57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1Cor 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Mar 16:15 And He(**Jesus**) said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

Mar 16:16 "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

Today, don't just celebrate the resurrection, step into it by faith.

**When Jesus raised from the dead and walked out of that tomb, He made a way for us to walk into freedom.**

### **Conclusion:**

**Today we celebrate something that still has the power to change lives—right here, right now. The resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is not something that happened back then... but something that still matters today and can happen now, and be a way of life.**

**This is of our mission, share the gospel, plant seeds of truth, grow and make more disciples of Jesus.**

**The resurrection power Jesus Christ empowers us to go to the ends of the earth.**

**Jhn 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.**

**Rom 10:8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach, the gospel):**

**Rom 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.**

### **Closing Prayer**

**Father, thank You for the power of the resurrection.**

**Thank You that Jesus is alive, and because He lives, we have hope, life, and victory.**

**Lift every heart hear today listening, restore every weary soul, and remind us that nothing is impossible for You.**

**Help us to walk by faith boldly in resurrection power this week.**

**In Jesus' name, Amen.**

### **Good Friday**

**Christ's sacrifice**

**Sin and death judged**

**Blood shed**

**It is finished (John 19:30)**

**Cross and suffering**

### **Resurrection Sunday**

**Christ's victory**

**Sin and death defeated**

**Paid the price by blood, grave emptied**

**He is risen! (Matt. 28:6)**

**Life and glory**

## Resurrection Prophecies & Fulfillments

<u>Prophecy</u>	<u>Old Testament Reference</u>	<u>New Testament Fulfillment</u>
Resurrection Predicted, Not See Decay	Psalms 16:10	Acts 2:25–32; Acts 13:35–37
Redeemer Stands on Earth	Job 19:25–27	Jhn 5:24–29; 1Jhn 3:2; 1Cor 15:20
Resurrection on the Third Day	Hosea 6:2; Jonah 1:17	Luk 24:46; Mat 12:40; 1Cor 15:3
Isaac Sacrifice, God will Provide	Genesis 22	Heb 11:17–19; Rom 8:32
Swallowing Up Death	Isaiah 25:8	1Cor 15:54
Your Dead shall Live; Arise	Isaiah 26:19	John 5:28–29; Mat 27:52–53
Suffering Servant Lives Again	Isaiah 53:10–11	Act 8:30–35; Rom 4:25; 1Pet 1:3
Victory Over the Grave	Hosea 13:14	1Cor 15:55
Foreshadowed: Passover Lamb	Exo 12; Lev 23:10–11	1Cor 5:7; 1Cor 15:20–23
Resurrection of the Just & Unjust	Daniel 12:2	John 5:28–29

## What does the Resurrection mean to us!

<u>Biblical Truth</u>	<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Result</u>
Substitution: Jesus took your place	Isaiah 53:4–12	You are forgiven
Redemption: Jesus bought you back	1 Peter 1:18–19	You are no longer a slave to sin
Justification: You are declared righteous	Romans 5:1–2	You are at peace with God
Reconciliation: Relationship restored	Colossians 1:19–22	You are brought near
Victory: Sin and Satan defeated	Colossians 2:14–15	You are more than a conqueror
Adoption: Brought into God's family	Galatians 4:4–7	You are a child of God

## What Resurrection Victory Means

### Because He Rose Again

He defeated death  
He bore your sin  
He fulfilled prophecy  
He opened the grave  
He restored hope  
He ascended to the Father  
He is returning again

### You Now Have This And More

Eternal life (John 11:25–26)  
Complete forgiveness (Colossians 2:14)  
Unshakable trust in God's Word (Proverbs 30:5)  
Freedom from fear (Hebrews 2:14–15)  
Living hope and a future (1 Peter 1:3–5)  
A High Priest and Advocate (Hebrews 7:25)  
Expectation and joy (1 Thessalonians 4:13–18)

## Palm Sunday Prophecies Jesus Fulfilled

<u>Prophecy</u>	<u>OT Reference</u>	<u>Fulfillment in Jesus</u>	<u>NT Reference</u>
The King on a donkey	Zech 9:9	Jesus enters Jerusalem	Mat 21:4–5
The Messiah arrives	Dan 9:24–26	Jesus Messiah Passover	Mat 21:1–11
People praise the King	Psalms 118:25–26	Crowds shout "Hosanna"	Mat 21:9
The Messiah is rejected	Isaiah 53:3	Jesus rejected and crucified	Mat 27:22–23
The King comes to temple	Malachi 3:1	Jesus enters, cleanses temple	Mat 21:12

## **Good Friday Prophecies & Fulfillments**

### **Prophecy**

**Betrayed by a close friend**

**Sold for 30 pieces of silver**

**Silent before His accusers**

**Beaten and spit upon**

**Mocked by bystanders**

**Hands and feet pierced**

**Cast lots for His garments**

**Given vinegar to drink**

**No bones broken**

**Pierced side**

**Buried with the rich**

### **OT Reference**

**Psalm 41:9**

**Zechariah 11:12–13**

**Isaiah 53:7**

**Isaiah 50:6**

**Psalm 22:7–8**

**Psalm 22:16**

**Psalm 22:18**

**Psalm 69:21**

**Ex 12:46; Psalm 34:20**

**Zechariah 12:10**

**Isaiah 53:9**

### **New Testament Fulfillment**

**John 13:18–21 (Judas' betrayal)**

**Mat 26:14–15; 27:3–10**

**Mat 27:12–14**

**Mat 26:67; Mark 14:65**

**Mat 27:39–44**

**John 20:25–27; Luke 24:39**

**John 19:23–24**

**Mat 27:34, 48; John 19:28–30**

**John 19:33–36**

**John 19:34–37**

**Mat 27:57 (Joseph's tomb)**