

THE GRAVE IS EMPTY... He IS RISEN!

Intro: Easter Sunday marks the day, nearly two thousand years ago, when God raised His Son Jesus Christ from the dead. This morning we can rejoice together and praise our "God, and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born-again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3).

Early Christian Creed affirming the resurrection of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:3-8)

The first line refers to Christ's substitutionary death for sin (v. 3) The second line to His burial (v. 4a)

The third line to His resurrection on the third day (v. 4b)

The fourth line to His post-resurrection appearances (vv. 5-8)

I. Christ's Substitutionary Death for Sin: Good Friday



- II. Christ's Burial: Good Friday (Matt. 27:61; Mark 15:47; Luke 23:55; John 19:38-42)
- III. Christ's Resurrection from the Dead: Sunday Morning (Mark 16:1-6; John 20:1-10)

IV. Christ's Post-Resurrection Appearances: Validate His Bodily Resurrection

- 1. To Mary Magdalene (Matt. 28:8-10; Mark 16:9-10; John 20:11-18)
- 2. To Simon Peter, Sunday afternoon (Luke 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:5)
- 3. To two disciples on Road to Emmaus, late afternoon (Luke 24:13-32)
- 4. To His disciples, Thomas absent, Sunday night (John 20:19-25)
- 5. To His disciples, Thomas present, following Sunday (John 20:26-31)
- 6. To more than 500 believers at one time (1 Cor. 15:6)
- 7. To His half-brother James (1 Cor. 15:7)
- 8. To seven of His disciples at the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-24)
- 9. To His disciples at various times over a period of forty days (Acts 1:3)
- 10. Jesus' final commission and ascension back to His Father in heaven (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:3-11).

Application: