

Aveleigh's Year of the Bible, April 1 2018

Easter Sunday

Sermon: WHAT IS THE BIG DEAL ABOUT EASTER ?

Text John 20 :1-18 p. 1165

Prayer unison on screen

Praise you, O God, for your mighty love has broken the absolute power of death! Your risen body shows us that no tragedy, no loss, no betrayal is final. You have the last Word, and like the first, it is the Word of Life! Grant us the wisdom to measure all our griefs and triumphs against your empty tomb, so that no earthly tragedy drive us to despair, no earthly achievement delude us about its power. Grant us grace to live in the freedom of your resurrection, unhampered by fear of death or in doubt about life. When our course on earth is done, cause us to rise in your likeness and live in your light. Amen.

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Sermon: WHAT IS THE BIG DEAL ABOUT EASTER ?

Text John 20 :1-18 p. 1165

What is The Big Deal about Easter?

1. JESUS IS WHO HE CLAIMED TO BE.

"I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies."
John 11:25

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one can get to God the Father except by means of me." John 14:6 (LB)

2. JESUS HAS THE POWER HE CLAIMED TO HAVE.

"All power in heaven and on earth is given to me." Matt. 28:18 (Ph)

"No one takes my life from me. I have the power to lay it down and I have the power to take it up again." John 10:18 (Ph)

3. JESUS DOES WHAT HE PROMISES TO DO.

"They will mock... and flog... and kill me; but after three days I will come back to life again."
Mark 10:34 (LB)

The angel said, `Don't be frightened! I know you are looking for Jesus who was crucified, but he isn't here! He has come back to life again, just as he said he would." Matt. 28:5-6
(LB)

What is The Big Deal about Easter?

1. MY PAST CAN BE FORGIVEN.

"He has forgiven all our sins... and cancelled every record of the debt we owed; Christ has done away with it by nailing it to the cross." Col. 3:14 (JB)

"There is no condemnation awaiting those who belong to Christ." Rom. 8:1 (LB)

2. MY PRESENT PROBLEMS CAN BE MANAGED.

"How incredibly great is his power to help those who believe Him ... the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead!" Eph. 1:20 (LB)

"I am ready for anything through the strength of Christ who lives in me." Phil. 4:13 (Ph)

3. MY FUTURE CAN BE SECURED.

"This is the way to have eternal life - by knowing the only true God and Jesus Christ, the one he sent to earth!" John 17:3 (LB)

"We have been born again into a life full of hope through Christ's rising from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3

Prayer: Awesome God, your steadfast love endures always. As we celebrate the promise of Easter, remind us that our lives can and will be totally transformed, just as the disciples were on that first Easter. Help us to savor in the mighty power of this Resurrection Day; in our risen Lord. Amen.

- Four For The Road:**
1. Who did Jesus claim to be?
 2. What power did Jesus claimed to have?
 3. Does Jesus do what he promises to do?
 4. What is the big deal about Easter?