

Easter 2024
Luke 24:1-12
Seek the Living

I. Intro

- A. Resurrection Sunday, a fulfillment of promise
- B. Resurrection Sunday, a beautiful reminder
- C. Resurrection Sunday, a call to action

II. Text

A. Verses 1-4

- 1. Supernatural events that were promised, yet unexpected
- 2. Such wonder and so many questions.
- 3. But the facts remain, the body of Jesus ROSE FROM THE GRAVE.
- 4. The women had prepared spices:
 - a) This would have been myrrh mixed with aloe
 - b) Nicodemus had already brought spices from the burial: [Jhn 19:39 ESV] 39 Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight.
 - c) Myrrh was a common spice for preparation of a dead body, but a strange gift for a baby.

B. Verse 5

- 1. Why do you seek the living among the dead?
- 2. This is a good question, but one that would have brought more confusion to the physical minds of the disciples.

C. Verses 6-9

- 1. He fulfilled His promise, but He did promise
- 2. They then immediately began to spread the word.
- 3. What they started that day is still the message of the church today.

D. Verses 10-12

- 1. The witnesses to the empty tomb
- 2. Verse 11: it seemed to be an idle tale, some still respond this way
- 3. But Peter investigated it, and discovered the truth.

III. Points

A. Why do you seek the living among the dead?

- 1. Lets give the disciples some credit here...He had been dead, so this would have been normal.
- 2. Luke also records a similar statement in Acts:
 - a) [Act 1:9-11 ESV] 9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. 10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, 11 and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."
 - b) Two angels, similar question
- 3. Quote from an article I read this week: "I take it that the suggestion is that there are things to be done which are not served by looking at where the Lord was, but by following where he said he would be and is. To go in the direction He has instructed. Simple.
- 4. The fact that Jesus lived a perfect life is important and world changing.
- 5. The fact that He died the perfect sacrifice, the lamb that was slain is vital to His plan.
- 6. The fact is those things are complete, and the new life of Christ lives on today.
- 7. Jesus is alive, and our focus should be on what he is now empowering us to do!
- 8. We fill our lives with things:

- a) We desire relationship with God, peace, or comfort
 - b) But we search for it in places that do not involve God
 - c) This is searching for the living among the dead.
 - (1) We want peace (comes from God), but we don't want peace God's way... searching among the dead
 - (2) We want security (comes from God), but we don't want to yield ourselves to God while depending on our own strength...searching among the dead
 - (3) We want JOY (comes from God), but we want to find this joy through substances that numb us to reality...searching among the dead.
 - d) You will not find Jesus while searching for the world...you will find emptiness.
- B. They Remembered His words
- 1. He told them
 - 2. John 14 is one of my favorite accounts of the message of Christ
 - 3. His message of resurrection was veiled at times, other times crystal clear
 - 4. Why?
 - a) Audience
 - b) Time/circumstance
 - c) Lack of ability to understand
 - 5. Remembering brings about change:
 - a) We have the Holy Spirit alive in us to bring us remembrance and truth
 - b) At just the right time:
 - (1) We can be convicted
 - (2) We can quote the right scripture
 - (3) We can say the right thing
 - (4) ...because God is alive in us speaking truth.
 - c) We NEED to HEAR FROM GOD
- C. Seemed to them and idle tale
- 1. If you are in doubt, you are pretty normal
 - 2. The doubters:
 - a) Nicodemus: 75 pounds of burial spice mixture
 - b) The disciples: sent the ladies to do more burial preparation.
 - c) The hearers of the testimony: sounded like an idle tale
 - d) They were all believing the same thing because dead people remain dead.
 - 3. But, this was different!
 - a) It was true
 - b) It was confirmed
 - c) It is the most provable case of a missing person ever to be.
 - (1) Roman soldiers guarded the tomb
 - (2) Eye witnesses to His resurrection
 - (3) The life change of the disciples:
 - (a) People will die for a lie
 - (b) But the group as a whole was willing to die, and people will not give their lives to something they KNOW to be a lie!
- IV. Close
- A. SEEK THE LIVING
 - B. SEEK JESUS

[Luk 24:1-12 ESV] 1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. 5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he

was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." 8 And they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, 11 but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. 12 But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.