

Who is Jesus?: Alive!

John 20:1-10

Introduction

- Christ's work on the cross was finished.
- After the Jews had demanded that the legs of the 3 men be broken to speed along death (due to it being the day of Preparation for the Sabbath of Passover – Friday leading into Saturday), Christ's bones remained intact because He was dead.
- He had breathed His last and willingly surrendered His human spirit to death...on His terms.
- Two men who come to care for Christ's body and bury Him in the garden tomb (Joseph of Arimathea & Nicodemus)
- Now, it's Sunday morning...

The Morning

- Day after Sabbath
- Day that work could begin again (after the Day of Preparation on Friday)
 - Mary arrives to finish the work of caring for Christ's body
 - However, the real work was finished on the cross and now the victorious work will begin to be realized
- The eventual day of worship for the early church
 - **Acts 20:7**
 - **1 Cor. 16:2**
 - **Ps. 118:22-24**

The Eyewitnesses

- Mary (and some other women)
 - **Luke 24:8-12**

- John regularly focuses on the individual that is representative of a group or most impacted
- She went to finish what was left undone because of the Sabbath...but the work was already done

- John
 - The "faster" one? Younger and descriptive of John
 - Saw the grave-clothes from outside the tomb
 - "blepo" – simply seeing
 - Followed Peter in
 - "Orao" – to see with understanding (v.8 would indicate)
- Peter
 - Charged in
 - Saw what John saw
 - "theoreo" – (theory or theorize) processed what he saw
 - The witness of two male testimonies was permissible in Jewish courts (**Acts 4**)

The Evidence

- Stone removed
 - **Matt.27:62-66**
- Tomb Empty
 - **1 Cor. 15:3-7**
- Wrapping cloths
 - This is a striking scene for John – provoked fear and belief
 - Body cloths
 - "Lying" here means "left untouched" – they hadn't been moved – just vacated!
 - Face cloth folded (**obscure but distinct fact**)
 - Jesus' exalted body translated right out of the cloths
 - Dismisses the idea of Grave-robbery
 - The expensive ointment and cloth would have been stolen as well

The Result

- Belief
 - Immediate (partial)
 - Eventual (full)
- Testimony
 - Of Scripture
 - **Ps. 16:10**
 - **Isa. 53:10–12**
 - **Hos. 6:2**
 - Of Witnesses
 - First to their homes
 - The women will bear witness (as we will look at next week) to the greater number of disciples

Application

- **Acts 2:22-41**
 - **Unbeliever, that you would “repent and be baptized”**
 - **You must believe what you see to begin with**
 - **Then, you must believe what you do not see. You must have both.**
- **1 John 1:1-4**
 - **Believer, that Christ would be your deepest and most satisfying Joy**
 - **What kind of testimony are you having in your homes? What are you telling your wife and children REALLY completes your joy? Is it your risen Christ?**
- **John 11:25-26**