

The Encouraging Message of the Resurrection

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I. Introduction.

A. The resurrection was hope for the Apostles.

B. Text: Matthew 28.

II. The empty tomb validated all that Jesus said. (Matthew 16, 26:31)

III. The resurrection is encouraging because it is a demonstration that our sins are forgiven. (I Corinthians 15:14)

A. Jesus was a substitute for our sin past, present and future.

B. The resurrection demonstrates that God provides security of our assurance.

IV. The resurrection is encouraging because it demonstrated that death was conquered. (I Corinthians 15:20)

V. The resurrection is encouraging because it assures a person that he will be raised from the dead. (I Corinthians 15:42, Philippians 3:20, I John 3)

A. We will see Jesus face to face.

B. We will know each other in heaven.

VI. The resurrection is encouraging because heaven is secure. (John 14:1, I Thessalonians 4:13, I Corinthians 15)

VII. The resurrection is encouraging because the same power that raised Christ from the dead will raise us, and we can experience that power now. (Philippians 3:10, Ephesians 1, Ephesians 3:20-21)

Application questions:

1. Why is belief in resurrection so critical to the Christian faith? Explain.

2. How does resurrection prove that our sins are forgiven?

3. How would you respond to people who say they believe in Jesus, but they believe that Jesus' resurrection was only spiritual?
