



## SERMON NOTES

### Easter Sunday (April 12, 2020)

#### *An Invitation to Believe*

*John 19:16–18, 30, 35, 38–42; 20:2–8, 24–31*

#### **I. Introduction**

- A. Easter points us toward the answer to the question everyone should ask – “Who is \_\_\_\_\_?”
- B. We believe that Jesus rose from the dead because of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the eyewitnesses.
- C. The Gospel writers documented their own \_\_\_\_\_.

#### **II. The final days**

- A. After the resurrection of Lazarus, Jesus’ enemies decided to have him arrested and put to \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. The new \_\_\_\_\_ would become the trademark of the new movement.
- C. After the burial of Jesus, his closest followers no longer believed that \_\_\_\_\_ was who he claimed to be.

#### **III. Easter matters**

- A. The resurrection \_\_\_\_\_ John’s entire life.
- B. Jesus says “blessed are those who believe because of testimony of men like \_\_\_\_\_.”
- C. The \_\_\_\_\_ has profound implications for our lives.
  - 1) God is personal.
  - 2) Suffering is not evidence of God’s absence.
  - 3) Heaven is real.
  - 4) Forgiveness is available.
  - 5) You are loved by God.

**Things I would like to remember about this message**

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## Asbury Daily Study Guide

### INTRODUCTION

Following Jesus' crucifixion, his followers expected what anyone expects after someone dies—that the person would remain that way. But one of Jesus' followers, John, gave an eyewitness account that summarized the main event surrounding Christianity: Jesus rose from the dead. In this seventh and final sign that John documents, he makes the case that Jesus is exactly who he claimed to be.

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#### Monday: John 19:16–42

- What are some details about this story that would lead a reader to believe this actually happened?
- What stands out to you about this passage?
- What emotions must the disciples have been feeling?

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#### Tuesday: John 20:1–8, 24–28

- What are some details about this story that would lead a reader to believe this actually happened?
- What stands out to you about these passages?
- Who can you relate to most from these passages: Peter, John, or Thomas? What makes you say that?

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#### Wednesday: Luke 24:1-12

What was Jesus' closest followers' initial response to the empty tomb? Do you identify with the disciples' doubts about the resurrection? How does their subsequent belief affect the credibility of their testimonies?

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#### Thursday: Matthew 28:1-10

Look at the 5 implications the resurrection has on our lives in section IIIC on the front page. Which of the five resonate with you. Which of the five do you have a hard time believing is true? What might change if you freed yourself to believe that what you've underlined is true?

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#### Friday: John 20:29

While many eyewitnesses believed in Jesus because of what they saw firsthand, why do you think Jesus called people—such as us—who were not eyewitnesses to the resurrection “blessed”?

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### MOVING FORWARD

*“Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. **John 20:30–31.**”* The invitation - based on John's account, you would believe that Jesus is who he claimed to be, and then you would trust in Him.

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Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Jesus, B) testimony, C) disbelief. IIA) death, IIB) commandment, C) Jesus. IIIA) reframed, B) John, C) resurrection.