REDEMPTION CHURCH

The King of the Jews | Easter Sunday

BIG POINT

The time had come when they could attend to their Savior. Mark's writing teaches us several things that we must be certain of as Christians.

Verse 1 reminds us Mark is building on the end of the previous chapter (that Jesus was truly dead –this wasn't some form of trickery). They had a very practical question: who will roll away the stone?

RESURRECTION REALITIES

- 1. Look for it everywhere Lamentations 3:22-23
- 2. Strange things start happening -<u>Mt 27:52</u>.
- 3. Do not be afraid -<u>2</u> <u>Timothy 1:7</u>
- He was crucified -<u>1 Cor</u>
 <u>2:2</u>, but this isn't where it ends.
- 5. He IS risen -<u>1 Thess 4:14</u>
- 6. He is on the throne <u>Revelation 5:1</u>
- 7. Go and tell -<u>Mt 28:18-20</u>

This morning we conclude our series, "The King of the Jews" by looking at this resurrection text in Mark 16. We've been looking at Jesus and what kind of king He is. We've learned that He is a paradoxical King –riding into town on donkey; but He is also a king that redeems, releases, rules, and returns us differently. We learned that His Kingdom is not of this world –it's beyond us, but turns the kingdoms of this world upside down. We pick up Jesus' story where most people's stories end, at His death.

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and **they were alarmed**. ⁶And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. **He has risen; he is not here**. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. **Mk 16:1-8**

Notes:

Don't be afraid.

- Not of religious opposition --it's proven to be wrong.
- Not of worldly opposition –not even death can own you.

On Good Friday, in the clashing of the Kingdoms, we looked at two beasts that we need <u>not</u> fear the beast of:

- political power (<u>Rev 13:1</u>).
- false religion and institutions turned against God (Rev 13:11).

It's easy to become fearful in the world that we live in. We look at the rapidly evolving world, the rise of evil, the lack of truth, and think, "What will this all look like? Shouldn't I be afraid or afraid for my children?" Why don't I need to be afraid?

Resurrection Hope

If Christ was resurrected, then all things can be resurrected.

If Christ was resurrected, then this isn't the end of the story – it's just the beginning of a new and greater story! It is the turning point of redemption. All things are getting closer to life now, not death. The day of full and complete redemption draws nearer and nearer. The day when sadness, death, pain, and agony finally disappear is getting closer.

If Christ was resurrected, then we can be resurrected. He is alive, He is in us, He is King. Worship Him as King, bow down to and celebrate Him as King –He **is** the King.

Observations

Three observations about Christ's resurrection:

- 1. The ruler of this world has been cast out (John <u>12:31-32</u>). Jesus' death defeated Satan (who now operates on limited time)
- 2. We are reigning with Christ (Ephesians 2:5-6)
- 3. Jesus has all the authority, so go and tell (<u>Mt 28:18-20</u>).

Now What?

He IS Risen! Go and Tell!

He was crucified and He HAS/IS risen.

He has risen! This can't be an "idea," but <u>must</u> be certain in our minds. He was dead, then He rose from the dead. The apostle Paul built on this later as the cornerstone of the faith. Without the resurrection, our faith is useless –no better than any other good story that motivates, inspires, or influences but cannot transform. See <u>1 Corinthians 15:3-4</u> and <u>Romans 6:4-11</u>.

Without His resurrection, we cannot be resurrected. If we can't be resurrected then we remain dead –dead in sin, despair, and without hope. We only have one option if Christ wasn't resurrected - death. Forever, eternal, darkness and death. But if Christ was resurrected then you can be too.

The Tomb is empty. Go and tell.

And do what? Tell of the King. Tell of what He has done –how our King came to die. Tell how he gave Himself up, stared down the barrel of God's judgment and didn't walk away, went to the cross and shed His blood as the only payment for God's wrath, and how He humbly faced the judgment. The lamb was slain, and His slaying was the victory. Tell how now our King, <u>the</u> King, sits on the throne and reigns over all. <u>See Revelation 5:1-14</u>

Tell of His love and mercy. Tell how you met the King. Tell how you were one thing, but now you are something new. Tell how you made the decision to follow the King because there is NOTHING as beautiful as the Gospel.

Tell how you have been healed by the King –from the inside out. Tell how He was with you in despair and healed your broken heart. Tell how He provides rest and strength in your storms. Tell how you can approach your king no matter who you are. Tell how you've given up everything for the King; and, because you

did, you finally found the one thing you were always looking for. And tell how your King rose; and, because He did, now you can too!

And tell them all that there is now nothing to fear –not death, pain, disappointment...the king has conquered it <u>all</u>. He is our King, and we are in the process of being resurrected. King Jesus is establishing a kingdom not of this world. Started at His birth, the work was finished on the cross.

The resurrection was the undeniable proof that, Long Live the King, He will never die and is coming back.

Surrender to Him now –all things will bow, now or later; so bow now and approach your King, live for your King –do not be afraid, He is risen, go and tell!