

The Big Deal

Luke 24:1-36

04/12/2020

There are those who don't understand why we as Christians make such a big deal about Easter. For some Easter is not any different from other "holidays" ...like Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Halloween.

We make a big deal out of Easter, because Easter is a big deal!

- I. Easter is a big deal because of who Jesus is.
 - A. He is God the Son who from all of eternity could not die.
 - B. He is the Son of God who became flesh so he could die.
- II. Easter is a big deal because of why Jesus came.
 - A. We are sinners who need a Savior
 - B. He is a Savior who loves sinners
- III. Easter is a big deal because of how Jesus died.
 - A. He died falsely condemned
 - B. He died between criminals
 - C. He died nailed to a cross
 - D. He died showing compassion
 1. For his mother
 2. For the thief
 3. For the crowd
 4. For the lost
- IV. Easter is a big deal because of when Jesus rose.
 - A. He was in the grave long enough to remove all doubts about his crucifixion
 - B. He was in the grave long enough to play with the minds of his disciples
 - C. He was in the grave long enough to fulfill the promise of his resurrection

- ✓ *From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. (Matthew 16:21)*
- ✓ *He was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." (Mark 9:31)*
- ✓ *"The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised." (Luke 9:22)*
- ✓ *"I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again." (John 10:17-18)*

So What?

- If the resurrection isn't a big deal, why did the religious leaders try to prevent it? (Matthew 27:62-66)
- If the resurrection isn't a big deal, why did the religious leaders try to bury it? (Matthew 28:11-15)
- If the resurrection isn't a big deal, why did the religious leaders try to silence it? (Acts 2:32; 4:1-2, 17-18)