



The Heart of Easter
Series: Gospel of John, #5
John 20:1-18; Selected Scriptures
Pastor Lyle L. Wahl
April 9, 2023

Theme: **Jesus' resurrection is the heart of Easter.**

The reality of the resurrection.

1. Established by the facts. (19:17 - 21:25)
2. Established by faith. (20:8-9, 29)

Some responses to Jesus' resurrection.

1. The religious leaders. (Matthew 28:11-15)
2. The followers of Jesus. (20 - 21)

The importance of the resurrection.

1. It declares Jesus Christ is God the Son, the Savior, the Lord.
(Acts 2:22-36; Romans 1:1-6)
2. It is essential to our salvation.
(Acts 13:37-38; Romans 4:23-25; 1 Corinthians 15:12-17)
3. It gives us new life and a new way of life.
(John 3:16; 11:25-26; Romans 6:4, 8-11; Colossians 3:5-10; 1 John 5:11-12)
4. It gives us a glorious future with Christ.
(Romans 8:17-18; 1 Corinthians 15:20-24; Colossians 3:4; 2 Timothy 2:12)

Your response to Jesus' resurrection.

1. Jesus' clear promise to you.
(10:29; cf. 3:14-16; 1 Peter 1:3-9; 1 John 5:11-12)
2. Your response?

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. On this Easter Monday, look back over your Easter celebration. What was at the heart of Easter for you? List all the things that were part of your celebration, including time with family and friends. Has this Easter impacted your relationship with Christ? If so, how?

Tuesday. Review the points we saw on Sunday about the reality of the resurrection. Can you summarize some basic facts that confirm Jesus' resurrection? Describe how the role of facts and faith work together in establishing the reality of Jesus' resurrection.

Wednesday. Today survey some responses to Jesus' resurrection by the religious leaders of that day as well as by His followers. Note both specific actions and principles that apply to non-believers and those that apply to believers. How does this affect your witness?

Thursday. The last response to Jesus' resurrection we looked at on Sunday was your response. If you are a believer, in what ways are you blessed that Thomas and the other disciples were not? Let this one specific part of your faith spur you on to stretch and develop even greater faith in all areas of life.

Friday – Saturday. On Sunday we will go back to John chapter 1:35-51 on building good relationships. Read these sections as you prepare for our time of worship together.