

“What the Empty Tomb Means”

John 20:24-31

Introduction

- I. Christianity stands or falls based on the validity of Christ's resurrection (Acts 3:15; Rom. 1:4; 6:4; 8:11; 1 Cor. 6:14; 15:1ff.; 1 Pet. 1:3).
- II. Because of His resurrection, there are certain things that Christians are blessed to have.

Discussion

- I. Because of Christ's resurrection, we can have saving faith.
 - A. There is no saving faith if the resurrection never happened (Rom. 10:17).
 - B. There are sufficient witness to the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:5-9).
 - C. People were so certain of the resurrection that they were willing to die to proclaim it and believe it.
 1. Stephen (Acts 7:54-60).
 2. James (Acts 12:1-4).
 3. Priscilla and Aquila (Rom. 16:3-4).
 4. Paul (2 Cor. 1:8-10).
- II. Because of Christ's resurrection, we triumph over sin.
 - A. Sin is the “plague” of mankind (Isa. 59:1-2; Prov. 14:34).
 - B. Alone, man has no hope to be victorious over sin (Heb. 10:4).
 - C. Jesus is the reason that we can win (John 1:29; Heb. 5:9; Acts 4:12; 1 John 1:7; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; 1 Cor. 6:18-20).
- III. Because of Christ's resurrection, we can have “newness of life”.
 - A. This is given when man is baptized into Christ (Rom. 6:3-4).
 - B. We now live our lives as servants of Christ (2 Cor. 5:14-17).
- IV. Because of Christ's resurrection, we triumph over death.
 - A. His resurrection serves as reason to believe that the dead in Christ shall rise (Col. 1:18; Rev. 1:5; 1 Cor. 15:57).
 - B. The grave is not the end (1 Thess. 4:13-18).

Conclusion

- I. We should all be grateful that Jesus lived, died, and rose again.
- II. Because of Christ's resurrection, we are extremely blessed.