
Life Church Message 2014–04-20:

Jesus Is Risen, On the Throne, & Reigning Through Us!

- **Resurrection Sunday**

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday April 20, 2014

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- ▼ **Jesus Is Risen, On the Throne, and Reigning Through Us!**

- **Read the Passage: John 20:1-18**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus’ head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

Then the disciples went back to their homes, but Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus’ body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

“They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.” At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

“Woman,” he said, “why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?”

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).

Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

- **Read the Passage: John 20:19-23**

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And

with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

- **Read the Passage: John 20:24-31**

Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Jesus did many other miraculous 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 Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- **Exegetical Idea**

Jesus rose bodily from the dead as Israel's and the world's King. By believing this we experience the life of the coming age.

- **Homiletical Idea:**

Jesus is risen, on the throne, and reigning through us.

- ▼ **Purpose of the Sermon (what listeners should do)**

- Understand the resurrection of Jesus.
- Understand Jesus' Kingship.
- Understand our mission.
- Understand how to cooperate with the life of Jesus within us.

- ▼ **Understand the resurrection of Jesus.**

- Jesus died in a body and rose from the dead in a body.
- The tomb was empty.
- The grave clothes were left as if the body had passed through them.
- The burial cloth was folded by itself.
- Jesus has a resurrection body that you can hold on to.
- Jesus wasn't always easy to recognize.
- Jesus' resurrection is not the end - it's the beginning of new creation.

- ▼ **Understand Jesus' Kingship.**

- Jesus is the Christ, the anointed one, the Messiah.

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- ▼ The Anointed One is Israel's King.
 - Israel's kings were anointed (so were the priests).
 - U.S. presidents are elected and sworn in (so are other officials).
 - You could call the president "the elected one" or "the sworn in one".
 - ▼ The Anointed One is Israel's true King - the one who makes everything right.
 - Britain - legend of King Arthur's eventual return
 - ▼ Big Picture
 - God creates the world.
 - God creates humans to reflect his glory into the world.
 - Humans rebel.
 - God calls Abram/Abraham and eventually Israel to fix things.
 - Israel rebels and is exiled.
 - The Messiah will make it right.
 - Jesus has been vindicated and has restored Israel to its original purpose to be a light to the nations. He also redefines Israel around himself.
 - Through the church Jesus is restoring humanity to its role as God's image bearers.
 - Yes - Jesus is my King.
 - ▼ **Understand our mission.**
 - Jesus is now reigning through his followers.
 - Jesus sends the disciples as the Father sent him. We are to be to the world what Jesus was to Israel.
 - We can bring people out of "exile" and into the Kingdom.
 - Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.
 - Proclaim the good news: Mark 1:14-15; Romans 1:1-6; Romans 1:16-17
 - ▼ **Understand how to cooperate with the life of Jesus within us.**
 - The life of the coming age (eternal life) has broken into the present age through Jesus and through those who believe in him. Romans 20:29-31
 - ▼ We cooperate with Jesus' life in us through (Acts 2:42-47):
 - Prayer
 - Reading the Word
 - Worship
 - Fellowship
 - ▼ **Homework Questions**

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- How are you working with others to expand God's Kingdom?
 - How are you cooperating with the life of Jesus within you?

▼ **Conclusion**

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