



What If There Was No Easter

1 Corinthians 15:12-26

April 5, 2026

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this sermon, we look through Paul's "what if" and see how blessed we are that Easter is true.

What would the world and our lives be like if Christ had not been raised from the dead?

1) Without Easter, Christianity does not exist.

2) Without Easter, death is victorious and final.

3) Without Easter, suffering is meaningless, and we are overwhelmed by evil.

Hebrews 4:14-16 – ¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. ¹⁶ Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

4) Without Easter, the world is without God's power and provision.

Response

Jesus is Risen indeed!

Sunday Text Questions

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Read the text aloud and discuss any significant observations or issues that need clarification together.

- 1) Why are Good Friday and Easter important to practice annually for our personal walk with Christ, as well as for the good of the corporate church family?

- 2) Why is the resurrection essential to the Christian faith (see vv. 14-18)? What is changed in the Christian faith if one denies the resurrection of Jesus?

- 3) Can one be a Christian and not believe in the resurrection of Jesus from the dead? What are the reasons people give for denying the resurrection of Jesus, and how would you respond to them?

- 4) Read vv. 21-22. How do those verses link the resurrection of Jesus (not just the cross) to the Christian's new life and show how the resurrection counters the effects of sin and death that began with Adam?

- 5) Based on vv. 23-26, how is the resurrection of Jesus the "first fruits" or beginning of the New Creation?

- 6) How does the resurrection of Jesus minister to you – in your suffering or as you face the reality and effects of death?

- 7) In what other ways, if any, did this passage speak into your life to teach, rebuke, correct, or train you in righteousness (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16)?

Further study this week: Passages related to Easter: Mark 16 (Mon); Luke 24 (Tues); John 11 (Wed); John 20 (Thurs); 1 Corinthians 15 (Fri).