

The First Easter

Luke 24 | 4.21.2019

Easter is God's annual question to Americans all across our country. On Easter Sunday, Christ will confront millions with this bold question, "***Do you know where you will spend eternity?***"
Chuck Swindoll

The Christian life is not mystical, but it is supernatural. It's founded upon a supernatural resurrection, supernaturally inspired Scripture, and the supernatural ministry of the Holy Spirit who shows us our need of salvation and provides for us insight into God's Word.

1 Corinthians 2:11-14 *Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. ¹³ These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. ¹⁴ But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

John 16:12-14 *"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*

Ephesians 1:15-21... *the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power ²⁰ which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead...*

Psalms 119:18 *Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.*

No one can exaggerate the importance of Easter Sunday; everything regarding Biblical Christianity rises and falls on one issue – The Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Re: **1 Corinthians 15:14-19**

- *Without the resurrection, our message and our faith are empty.*
- *Without the resurrection, we have no forgiveness of our sins.*
- *Without the resurrection, we have no hope for the future.*
- *Without the resurrection, we are the most pitiful people in the earth.*

Three Events Surrounding the First Easter:

1. Early morning with the woman at the empty tomb **Luke 24:1-12**
2. Afternoon with two men on the Emmaus Road **Luke 24:13-32**
3. Evening with the disciples and others in Jerusalem **Luke 24:33-46**

- Note that the enemies of Christ remembered what He taught about the resurrection.

Matthew 27:62 On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, ⁶³ saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, '**After three days I will rise.**'" ⁶⁴ Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first."

Luke 24:2-7 But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. ³ Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. ⁵ Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, ⁷ saying, '**The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.**'"

Luke 24:11-12 And their words seemed to them like idle tales, (delirious) and they did not believe them. ¹² But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened.

Luke 24:21 But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.

Luke 24:25-27 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" ²⁷ And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

Luke 24:30-32 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ **Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him;** and He vanished from their sight. ³² And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

Luke 24:36-48 Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." ³⁷ But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. ³⁸ And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." ⁴⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. ⁴¹ **But while they still did not believe** for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" ⁴² So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. ⁴³ And He took it and ate in their presence. Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." ⁴⁵ **And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.** ⁴⁶ Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ And you are witnesses of these things.