

Surprised By Joy

Promise: Christ's resurrection makes possible a joyful future for us

Pastor Timothy A. Duesenberg

Isaiah 25:6-9; Ps 16; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; [Mark 16:1-8](#)
(The Resurrection of Our Lord, 4/4/21)

And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. – v. 8

Lead In – We all like surprises don't we? Some of you might say, "It depends." And the hesitancy is because there are joyful and good surprises, but we also know and have experience alarming, sorrowful, and bad surprises. Because of this some just wish not to be surprised at all, lest it be an unwanted one. One illustration of this is the effect of the Jack in the Box toy on young toddlers... So how would we label the surprise of Easter?

I. Christ's Resurrection Is Joyful For Believers

- A. Lent has not been about pretending so that...
- B. Easter people take the crucifixion seriously...
- C. The surprise for the first believers...

II. Why Might They Have Been Fearful At First?

- A. Natural reaction to transcendent mystery...
- B. Uncertainty to the returning King's disposition...

III. Joy Because of Forgiveness And Newness of Life

- A. Jesus rose, but what does that mean for us?
- B. He claimed to bear our sins, and to atone for them...
- C. Where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also...

Parting Shot – Indeed our Easter Celebration is a joyful one for those joined to Christ in baptism, and who are living out in repentant faith in Him. For as we hear in our baptisms, to die with Him in Baptism is to live in newness of life now, and then one day to share in a resurrection like His. It is this joyful surprise that will keep us from the most horrendous and horrible surprise when Christ comes again to judge the living and the dead. In Him, we celebrate being surprised by joy, and so we joyfully raise our praise and thanksgiving to Him on the Easter Morn.

1Co1:23-We preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Mk 8:34 He said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."

alarmed by the angel and his declaration, trembling and astonishment seized them, and they were afraid

Mt 28:5-8 But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

Is 6:5 And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for

Mark 16:1-8 ESV

The Resurrection

¹When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. ⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. ⁶And he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Lk 2:9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear.

Lk 5:8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord."

Mt 26:35 Peter said to him, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!" And all the disciples said the same.

Mt 26:31 Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night. For it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.'

Mt 26:56 Then all the disciples left him and fled.

Jn 20:19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

Jn 20:22-23 he ... said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

Lk 24:45-47 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations.

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