Sermon Notes for April 20, 2014

The Day that Changed Our World

Luke 24

Introduction

There are certain events in history that define a generation and change our world.

- September 11, 2001 – World Trade Towers Collapse
- December 7, 1941 – Japan attacks Pearl Harbor

But no event has had a greater impact on world history than the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Jesus’ resurrection is the exclamation point on his life, vindicating his claims and giving hope to the world.

I. The resurrection of Jesus is a shattering historical event.

Luke tells us no one expected it.

- The women who went to the tomb. Verses 1-11
- The men who were walking to Emmaus. Verses 12-35
- Not even the disciples. Verses 11-12 and 36-49

There is hope here for anyone who has questions, fear, doubt or skepticism. You are in good company.

They wrote these accounts as eyewitnesses so you may study the evidence for yourself and believe.

II. The resurrection is the key to understanding all the Scriptures.

What did the angels tell the women at the tomb?

“He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ” Then they remembered his words.” Luke 24:6-8

Prior to his death Jesus told his followers exactly what was going to happen to him in Jerusalem.

“Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, “We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the
Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again."

The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about.” Luke 18:31-34

What did Jesus say to the men walking to Emmaus?

“He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.” Luke 14:25-27

Let’s just take one book, Isaiah, which was written over 700 years before Christ was born. What did Isaiah say about the Messiah?

- 7:14 – He would be born of a virgin.
- 9:1-7 – His ministry would take place in Galilee by the Sea. He would be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. He would reign on David’s throne and his kingdom would never end.
- 11:1 – He would come from the stump of Jesse and the Spirit of the Lord would rest upon him.
- 62:1-2 – He would preach good news to the poor. He would bind up the broken hearted and proclaim freedom to the captives.
- 52:13-53:12 – He would be the suffering servant who would die for our sins.

“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.” Isaiah 53:5

“He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth.” Isaiah 53:9

“After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by knowledge of him my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities.” Isaiah 53:11

It is all there and much more.

The key to understanding the Scriptures is Jesus Christ.

III. The resurrection is Good News for all people.

Those were the words spoken by the angel at Jesus’ birth.
“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord.” Luke 2:10-11

Good news is meant to be shared.

- The women at the tomb hurried to tell the disciples, “Jesus is alive.”
- The two men going to Emmaus went immediately to find the Eleven and tell them, “It is true. The Lord has risen and appeared to Simon!”
- The disciples, after they had seen the risen Christ, went out and told the world. “Repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations.”

Conclusion

Because Jesus lives, all who believe in him will also live.

The future God has planned for us is real. It is certain. It is personal and it is unimaginably wonderful.

“No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him – but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit.” I Corinthians 2:9-10

“There’s no more powerful message possible. And it’s based on the historical fact of the resurrection.” Tim Keller