

Sermon Title: "THE FIRST DAY"

Date: April 9, 2023 - John 20:1-23

Central Idea: Celebrating the resurrection means taking your eyes off the empty tomb and placing them on the Lord. Are your eyes on the risen Lord?

Introduction: The resurrection is an essential part of the Gospel message (1 Corinthians 15:1-8) and is a key doctrine in the Christian faith. It proves that Jesus Christ is the Son of God and that His atoning work on the cross has been completed and is effective (Romans 4:24-25). The historical fact of the resurrection and its theological meaning will become the centerpiece of apostolic preaching in the Book of Acts.

I. An Empty Tomb John 20:1-9

- 1. A displaced stone vv. 1-2**
- 2. Strips of linen vv. 3-5**
- 3. Burial cloth vv. 6-9**

II. A Living Christ John 20:10-18

- 1. Recognition of the Lord vv. 10-16**
- 2. Ascending to the Father v. 17**
- 3. Report to the disciples v. 18**

III. A Lasting Peace John 20:19-23

- 1. The peace of salvation vv. 19-20**
- 2. The peace of service vv. 21-23**

Conclusion: The glorious truth of the resurrection was not understood immediately by even His closest followers. It gradually dawned on these grieving people that their Master was not dead, but alive! And what a difference it made when the full realization of His resurrection took hold of them!