

# Chad Greer - Oasis Church

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What the Resurrection Means  
From the series The Gospel of Luke

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Luke 23:50-56

Now there was a man named Joseph, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid. It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened.

Jesus Died

Jesus died a terrible and horrific death.

He had been beaten within inches of his life and then hung on a cross for all to see. He was mocked, spit on, and ridiculed. It was a public spectacle witnessed by many; meant to shame him and to make an example out of him.

His life was not taken from him. Jesus gave his life freely and fully. Jesus told them what would happen to him. He told them in Mark 10:32-34 and Matthew 20:17 – 19.

He told them at the last supper...take, eat this is my body given for you. This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. (Luke 22:19-20)

He was blessed, he was broken, and he was given...for you.

### Jesus Was Buried

Joseph of Arimathea asked for Jesus' body.

It was the day of preparation...that is the day before the Sabbath when things were organized, work was finished, food was cooked to allow for the day of rest.

Mark tells us that when Joseph asked for the body of Jesus, Pilate was surprised Jesus was already dead. The Roman centurion confirmed that Jesus was indeed dead.

Joseph was granted the body and took Jesus off the cross. Daylight was slipping away, so they hurriedly prepared Jesus for burial by wrapping him in linen cloth and laying him in a new tomb in a garden nearby.

A stone was placed over the entrance and darkness fell. The darkest night in history. The Son was extinguished.

I wonder, was it eerily quiet or could you hear cries echoing through the city?

What was going through the minds of the disciples during the time Jesus was in the tomb?

### Jesus Arose

The women's experience.

The guards' story. (Matthew 27: 62 – 66 & Matthew 28: 11 – 15)

The problem with the guards' story...the grave cloths left behind.

Peter's realization.

But on the first day of the week...

A new chapter was started for all of mankind.

Our entire faith was dependent on the resurrection. If Jesus had not got up from the grave, he would have been just another man, prophet, zealot.

If Jesus was not raised, our preaching and your faith would be in vain.

The resurrection of Jesus is what makes our faith different from any other religion.

What the Resurrection Means



Figure 1 Grave of Muhammad





Figure 2 Ashes of Buddha



Figure 3 The empty tomb of Jesus

Because of the resurrection we have faith.

Because of the resurrection we have truth.

Because of the resurrection we have hope.

Because of the resurrection we have life.

What are you going to do with the resurrection?

Are you among the crowd that did not believe and are now faced with the dilemma of faith.

This is the first day of the week...will you allow Jesus to arise in your heart today?

Will you celebrate with us the dawning of faith, or will you go away from this place pounding your chest?