Calvary Baptist Church, Easter Sunday AM, April 12, 2020

THE GREATEST DAY IN HISTORY

Text: 1 Cor. 15:1-20, etc.

- Three reasons why Easter is the greatest day of all time:
- I. IT WAS THE DAY OUR SAVIOR ROSE BODILY FROM THE DEAD (VS. 1-4).
- Three important ______ of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ:
 - 1. It happened in fulfillment of Old Testament _____
 - "According to the Scriptures" such as Ps. 16:10.
 - 2. It happened in spite of the best attempts of Jesus' enemies to ______ it.
 - 3. The fact that it happened was verified by _____ eyewitnesses.
- II. IT WAS THE DAY OUR GOSPEL WAS ______ (Vs. 5-9).
- The eleven Resurrection appearances of Christ:
 - To Mary Magdalene in the _____.
 - \circ $\,$ To a group of women who had come to the tomb to tend His body.
 - To _____, privately, for reconciliation after his denials.
 - \circ $\,$ To Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus.
 - To the disciples minus _____ as they were gathered in secret, probably in the Upper Room.
 - \circ $\,$ To the disciples again, this time including Thomas.
 - To ______ of the disciples by the Sea of Galilee.
 - To over _____ disciples on a mountaintop in Galilee.
 - To _____, the unbelieving half-brother of the Lord.
 - \circ $\,$ To all the disciples just before His Ascension into heaven.
 - To a man named ______ on the road to Damascus.
- The completed gospel of Christ has four parts: His death, burial, Resurrection, and appearances.
 - Christ's ______ and Resurrection were the essential works of our salvation (Rom. 4:25).
 - Christ's burial and appearances are the ______ of His completed work:
- II. IT WAS THE DAY OUR FUTURE WAS SECURED (VS. 13-20, ETC.).
- Three glorious, life-changing truths about the Resurrection of Christ:
 - 1. The Resurrection proves that Jesus Christ has the ______ to save others who come to Him in faith for salvation and cleansing from sin (Heb. 7:25).
 - 2. The Resurrection guarantees that all those who die believing in Christ will one day also be ______ (vs. 21-23).
 - 3. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ foreshadows His ultimate triumph over ______ (vs. 24-26, 55-57).

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THE BLESSEDNESS OF BELIEVING

Text: John 20:19-20, 24-31

- I. THE ______ OF THE SAVIOR
- A. The amazing appearance (vs. 19)
- One moment He wasn't there, but the next He was, as with a single step.
- Came through doors that were being kept ______ and probably locked.
- B. The amazing _____ (vs. 20)
- The wounds in Jesus' hands and side:
 - The proof of His _____.
 - The proof that He had a real, physical _____.
 - The proof of His identity at His second ______
- C. The amazing _____
- The disciples were glad!
- II. THE ______ OF THE DOUBTER (VS. 24-28)
- A. Thomas's _____ (vs. 24-25)
- "I will not believe" = very strong, "I will not at all believe."
- He set ______ on his faith—he had to both see and touch.
- B. Thomas's declaration (vs. 26-28)
- "After eight days again" = inclusive reckoning, the next ______.
- Jesus' invitation—to ______ His hand and side.
- Jesus' admonition—"be not faithless [becoming _____], but believing"
- Thomas's reaction = "my _____ and my God!"
- III. THE ______ FOR THE BELIEVING (VS. 29-31)
- God gives greater rewards for greater ______ and blesses His children more richly when we exercise greater faith in Him.
- God gives the greatest blessing of ______ life only in response to faith.
- We believe not on the basis of sight but of God's ______
 Word (vs. 30-31).
- Application 1: Believe the ______ of the Bible regarding Jesus Christ.
 - Recognize Him as your Lord and God and receive Him as such.
- Application 2: When you can't see the future and don't like what you can see in the present, keep believing in your loving, risen Lord and keep your eyes on the ______ blessings He has in store for you (2 Cor. 4:17-18).