The Moment that Mattered | Easter 2023

Summary

Jesus died the death you and I deserved to die. We have sinned, and instead of having us face the consequences of our sins, Jesus took the consequences even though He did nothing wrong. He never sinned but He was killed for our sins. When Jesus rose from the grave, sin and death lost their grip on Jesus because they had no justification over Him or claim over Him. Sin and death were defeated. Not just for Jesus, but for anyone who chooses to accept Jesus.

Scripture

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all... Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life an offering for sin, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. After he has suffered, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. -Isaiah 53:4-6, 10-11 (NIV)

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter

came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. Finally, the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) -John 20:1-9 (NIV)

Let's Start

As Pastor Kyle shared, when we have moments that matter, we remember vivid details. Do you have any personal examples of this?

Gratitude and Prayer

How did God work in your life since the last time we were together?

Let's Talk

- 1. What advice would you pass on to the next generation as they establish their own Easter traditions?
- 2. Did you hear anything in Pastor Kyle's message that inspired you? Explain.
- 3. What did John discover when he arrived at the tomb? How did he respond to this discovery?
- 4. Pastor Kyle shared evidence that Jesus' death and resurrection are real. How can you be certain Jesus really did rise from the dead?
- 5. Is it easier for you to believe in Jesus' teachings than in His resurrection? Why or why not?
- 6. If you had to tell the Easter story in just 10 seconds, how would you tell it?
- 7. What does it look like to live as a Christian in the hope of the resurrection?

Let's Act

Whom do you need to tell about the empty tomb of Christ? How?	