



CHRISTIAN CENTER

Now Here

Part 1
April 4, 2021

Easter Sunday



I. INTRO

A. Early on a Sunday morning

John 20:1-9 (NLT) Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. ² She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, “They have taken the Lord’s body out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!” ³ Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. ⁴ They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn’t go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ while the cloth that had covered Jesus’ head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. ⁸ Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed— ⁹ for until then they still hadn’t understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead.

John 20:10 (NLT) Then they went home.

B. We tend to miss something very important because we know the story

John 6:66-69 (NIV) ⁶⁶ From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. ⁶⁷ “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve. ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. ⁶⁹ We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”

- They followed Jesus because they believed He was the Messiah

C. The death of Jesus proved the followers of Jesus were wrong

D. The followers of Jesus expected Jesus to do what dead people do

John 20:19a (NLT) ¹⁹ That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders ...

II. NOWHERE

A. Question: Why are they hiding from the Jews, instead of looking for Jesus?

B. Adam and Eve were afraid and hiding. So, they were afraid and they were hiding

- They hid from God because they were afraid, and they were afraid because they were ashamed

C. The Jesus that was “nowhere” was “now here”



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John 20:19 (NLT) ¹⁹ That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! “Peace be with you,” he said.

D. Shalom

- We think of peace as the absence of conflict
- Shalom carries the idea that everything is restored to proper order. Everything is in its proper place

Colossians 1:20-22 (TPT) ²⁰ And by the blood of his cross, everything in heaven and earth is brought back to himself—*back to its original intent, restored to innocence again!* ²¹⁻²² Even though you were once distant from him, living in the shadows of your evil thoughts and actions, he reconnected you back to himself. *He released his supernatural peace to you* through the sacrifice of his own body as the sin-payment on your behalf so that you would dwell in his presence. And now there is nothing between you and Father God, for he sees you as holy, flawless, and restored,