

Why Do You Seek The Living Among The Dead?

Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / Apr 4, 2021 (Easter Sunday)

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.”

I. Don't make the mistake of assuming Jesus was “just like us,” because He's not.

Luke 24:1-3 “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.”

The women went to the tomb expecting to treat Jesus like any other deceased family member or friend. But Jesus was *not* like us, and for that we should be grateful.

A. Jesus' life was not like ours, because He never sinned.

1 Peter 2:22-23 “He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When He was reviled, He did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but continued entrusting Himself to Him who judges justly.”

B. Jesus' death was not like others, because He paid for our sins.

1 Peter 2:24 “‘He himself bore our sins’ in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. ‘By his wounds you have been healed.’”

II. Don't make the mistake of looking for “life” where it can't be found.

Luke 24:4-6 “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?’”

The reason the Bible uses such exclusive language when speaking of Christ is He provides what you won't be able to find anywhere else—saving grace and truth!”

John 14:6 “Jesus said to him, ‘I am *the* way, and *the* truth, and *the* life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

III. Even though Jesus is not like us, His resurrection enables us to be like Him in having victory over the grave!

Luke 24:6-9 “‘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.”

Questions for Community Group and/or Personal Application:

- (1) What truth(s) from the sermon were great to hear again? Which one(s) were new to you?
- (2) Pastor Peter said “Jesus is not like us.” How does that make you feel?
- (3) When have you expected something to be “life-giving” and ended up being sorely disappointed?
- (4) Does Jesus’ death on the cross and resurrection from the grave bring you peace concerning your own death? Why or why not?
- (5) How can you fill in the blanks below?

I was _____.

But God _____.

So now, _____.