

The Gospel of Mark
A Risen Savior
Mark 16:1-8

We live in a world where some things are just really hard to believe. Our life experiences cause us to become skeptical toward the truth of some claims and cynical towards the source of those claims. Politics and media have certainly played their part in cultivating our distrust of people and their intentions. Some people are predisposed to think a certain way and would rather not be bothered with the facts.

1. A risen Savior validates all that Jesus taught.
2. A risen Savior establishes Christ's exclusivity.
3. A risen Savior demonstrates victory over death.

We cannot experience resurrection power without first experiencing the forgiveness of the cross, but the forgiveness of the cross is only possible because of the resurrection. The resurrection is the crowning moment in the atoning work of Jesus. The Bible, and human experience for that matter, says that the wages of sin is death. At the cross Jesus paid the death penalty for our sins. In His resurrection, He famously declares His victory over death. In His gospel, He extends to us the offer to participate in that victory.

For further consideration

When you think about your faith, or when you face doubts, what is the bottom line for you—what is your anchor? What do you say when asked why you are a Christian? Why do you think people create alternative explanations for the resurrection of Jesus? What evidence of the resurrection is most convincing to you? How does (or should) the resurrection affect your everyday decision-making? How does it impact the way you see the world and the way you treat the people around you? Are there things in your life that betray your confidence in the resurrected Christ? What can you do or what can you change so that your life reflects the promise and hope of a risen Savior?