

Sermon: "...that You May Believe!"

Easter Sunday April 12, 2020 [Live-stream on Facebook Live]

Pastor Jon Horn – Sermon Outline and Notes

John 20:1-10

John 19:38

“A disciple of Jesus, ***but secretly.***”

Are you a **secret disciple?**

This morning we join literally millions around the world who, all these years later, are saying to one another and declaring before any who choose to hear our conviction that **Jesus is actually alive!**

Wouldn't this story have died out, faded away over the decades and centuries?

“We all crave explanation about human existence. Why do people die? Why is our life the way it is? What will happen afterwards?”

Jesus is the answer to those questions!

Romans 5:12

- **Jesus did not sin.** So if sin is the cause of death, why then did Jesus die? The Bible answers: **God's plan from all of eternity was a plan of salvation that Jesus would take the place of sinners.**

Genesis 22 – Abraham and Isaac

John 11:25-26

- **“Do you believe this?”**
- You see, the writer of this gospel, John himself, **is all about believing. He is writing because he wants us to be converted—not intrigued, informed, or inspired, but converted.**

John 20:31

- **...the stone had been taken away from the tomb.**
- **John's faith is grounded in what he sees and in what he does not see.**

Acts 17:32-34

Ask yourself, **"Into which category do I fall?"**

Response number one: Mocking disbelief.

- **Why do you disbelieve? Because you so desperately want any kind of explanation that relieves you of the responsibility of considering the possibility that Jesus Christ is the very person that he claimed to be, that He is alive, and that you're going to reckon with him.**

Response number two: "Can I believe this?"

- **Pilate eventually said, "What shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?"**
- **Matthew 27:22-26**

Response number three: "I do believe it."

- **John 20:24-27**
- **John 20:28-29**
- **1 Peter 1:8-9**

Romans 10:17

It is God's Spirit that brings home to us God's Word to show us what we are.

It is the story of Jesus becoming your Savior.

There's only one way to become a Christian.