



Easter Sunday

Matthew 28:1-10

False Testimony

- The Jewish leaders testified to Jesus' guilt, because He was considered a liberal, trouble making activist.
- Pilate testified to Jesus' guilt because he feared trouble from the Jews.
- Barabbas testified to Jesus' guilt because, in his eyes, Jesus was guilty.

False Testimony (cont)

- The Roman guards testified to Jesus' guilt, because as far as they were concerned, he was a criminal and deserved to be crucified.
- Jesus' disciples testified to His guilt, because if Jesus was wrong, then He must have been wrong all along.
- Popular opinion testified to Jesus' guilt because popular opinion decided that Jesus was guilty.

Good Friday

- For the two days Jesus lay in the tomb, the disciples feared that everything He taught and everything He had done would be forgotten.
- On Good Friday, a flawed arrest led to several flawed trials.
- Rules and regulations were flaunted, ignored and broken in order for Jesus to be found guilty and to guarantee that He would die.

Testimonies to Jesus' Innocence

- Regardless of what he had done in the garden, Judas knew in his heart that Jesus was innocent.
- Pilate may have given in to the pressure of Caiaphas and his cohorts, but he knew in his heart that Jesus was innocent.
- Herod knew that Jesus had done nothing that deserved death.
- The thief on the cross knew that Jesus was innocent.
- Even the soldier who executed Jesus testified to His innocence.

Empty Tomb Testified To Jesus' Innocence

- The miracle of Easter is that the empty tomb testified to Jesus' innocence.
- If Jesus was guilty and dead, then why was He not still in the grave?
- Because Jesus rose on Easter day, fifty days later 120 Christians were filled with the Holy Spirit and Christianity was proven right.
- Our doctrine may fail us, and our leaders may disappoint us, but Christianity will not be kept down.

Conclusion

- Jesus was innocent on Palm Sunday; He was innocent on Good Friday and He was innocent on Easter Sunday.
- When Jesus won over death, He offered us the power to win over death.
- Jesus Christ won on Calvary for one reason and one reason only, and that was to give us the opportunity to have eternal life.