

## THE SEVEN SIGNS OF EASTER

Matthew 27:62-28:11

### Introduction

1 Corinthians 15:17

#### I. How Do We Know the Resurrection Really Happened?

- A. The Soldiers – Matthew 27:63-66, Matthew 28:11-15
- B. The Seal – Matthew 27:66
- C. The Stone – Matthew 27:59-60, 28:2, John 20:1
- D. The Sepulcher – Matthew 28:5-6, John 20:2
- E. The Shroud – John 20:3-8
- F. The Scars – John 20:26-28
- G. The Sightings – 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

#### II. Why Is the Resurrection Important Today?

- A. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ Is About Our Past – Romans 4:25
- B. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ Is About Our Present – Ephesians 1:19-20
- C. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ Is About Our Future – 1 Peter 1:3-5, Acts 2:22-24

### Conclusion

## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

### Getting Started

Easter is like Christianity's SUPER BOWL. It is a time to reconnect with the reality of Jesus conquering death. This triumph is the cornerstone upon which we place all our hopes...

1. How did you come to believe in Jesus as Lord and Savior? Describe your transformation process from being someone who did not follow Jesus to becoming one of His followers.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. As you think of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection, what are the dominant thoughts that fill your mind? What are you most focused on? What emotions come up when you think of His sacrifice for you and victory over your sin

### Going Deeper

1. Read Matthew 16:21, 17:9, 20:17-19, and John 2:18-22. The Bible boldly proclaims that Jesus died and rose from the dead. Prior to your conversion, what about Christianity seemed bold or even strange? In what way has your relationship with Jesus changed your perspective?

2. It can be difficult to admit that we have doubts about faith in God. How do the biblical predictions and proofs bolster your faith in times of doubt?

3. Read 1 Corinthians 15:50-57. How does Jesus' death and resurrection change the way Christians can think and feel about dying?

4. Jesus Himself prophesied about the events leading up to His resurrection. And His predictions were 100% accurate. Read 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. As a Christian, how does this encourage your faith in both the Bible and Jesus Himself?

5. Look at 1 Corinthians 15:6 and Acts 1:3. In our evidence-demanding world, what does this say to you about the validity of Jesus' resurrection from the dead

### **Applying the Message**

1. Jesus gives us both eternal life and daily, abundant life (see John 10:10). What are some specific convictions that you cling to as you persistently place your entire life (now and eternal) in the hands of Jesus?

2. If you do not have a relationship with Jesus Christ, what or who might be keeping you from moving toward Him right now