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MESSAGE NOTES - APRIL 5th, 2026

NO GRAVE

What if Jesus had never risen from the dead?

1 Corinthians 15:14-19 - 14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. 15 More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. 19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied."

FRIENDS, THE REASON FOR HOPE AND JOY IS BECAUSE OUR CHRIST IS RISEN!

"I know the Resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, and then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Everyone was beaten, tortured, stoned, and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world, and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible." **Chuck Colson**

THERE IS NO GRAVE THAT CAN HOLD JESUS; THROUGH GRACE, THERE IS NO SIN WHICH CAN HOLD US.

1. The resurrection shows us the power and glory of God.

John 17:1-2 "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him."

Romans 4:25 "He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God."

Romans 8:11 The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

1 Corinthians 15:23 But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back.

John Wesley - "...let death prevail over, and pull down, this house of clay; since God hath undertaken to rear it up again, infinitely more beautiful, strong, and useful." — John Wesley, On the Resurrection of the Dead

2. The resurrection shows us God's compassion.

3. The resurrection shows it isn't just about one person or one people, the resurrection changes everything.

Rev 21:5 Behold, I make all things new.

John 11:25-26 "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. 26 Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die."

"The point of the resurrection is not simply that the creator God has done something remarkable for one solitary individual (as people today sometimes imagine is the supposed thrust of the Easter proclamation), but that, in and through the resurrection, the present evil age has been invaded by the age to come, the time of restoration, return, covenant renewal, and forgiveness. An event has occurred as a result of which the world is a different place, and human beings have the new possibility to become a different kind of people." **N. T. Wright**

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John 11:25-26 "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying. 26 Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this?"

Do you believe this? Do you believe Jesus?

Believe in Jesus.