

Faith in the Home, Sermon Notes and Applications for the Home

Easter Sunday, Mark 16:1-8, "The Divine End of Death."

Early on the Sunday morning after Jesus was crucified and then buried, women who had followed and loved Jesus went to visit His tomb. At first, they worried how they would get the tomb opened in order to bring their spices to Jesus' body. But when they came to the tomb the heavy stone was rolled open. So, they went in and found an angel in white. They were afraid, but the angel told them "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here." Even with this great news, and the angel's assurance, the ladies fled the tomb trembling with fear. Why is that particular detail so important?

This detail is important because while it doesn't tell us word for word that Jesus is the divine Son of God, it demonstrates His divinity as the Son of God. There are important occurrences and patterns throughout Mark's Gospel account of Jesus. One those patterns is that when Jesus' disciples experienced a divine moment of God's power, truth, and the revelation that Jesus is indeed God, fear overtook them. The resurrection of Jesus is included among those moments.

Back in Mark 4, beginning with verse 35, the disciples and Jesus were in a boat. Jesus was sleeping as the boat sailed, but the disciples shook Him awake when a storm hit the sea. The disciples were afraid for their lives. But when Jesus woke up, He calmed the storm. Even though the disciples were afraid of the storm, afterwards the Scripture tells us that the disciples were "filled with a great fear." A fear even greater than that of the storm. Why because Jesus demonstrated His awe-inspiring power over creation because He is the God of all creation who created everything.

When Jesus was transfigured in Mark 9, Peter, James, and John were terrified of the divinity being revealed in Jesus. This takes us back to our text today. The ladies at the tomb were terrified because they were at a place where the most important divine moment for us ever took place. The is signifies the divine took place. The almighty creator of the universe who was dead and buried, is now alive again. Jesus isn't a god. He is the one true God. One with the Father and the Holy Spirit. And in the divine moment of His resurrection means that we can simultaneously be in awe of the awesome work of God, but no longer have to be afraid death and divine punishment in Hell. Jesus died for our sins, and rose again. Whoever believes in this will not perish, but rise again to a divine new creation where we will be able to live in peace with our beloved savior, God, king, and friend, Jesus. Death has a divine end in Jesus. You have a divine new life. You have a resurrection into a divine new world promised to you.