

The Problem of Mistaken Identity – Part 3

Romans 7:24-25; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 4-9-23

The Problem of Evil

²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! – Romans 7:24-25a

- The first question: What is fundamentally wrong in a world filled with such evil?
- The second question: What is the solution to evil in this world?
- The third question: So how do we know that Jesus is the solution to the problem of evil?

1. The Empty Tomb and the Abrupt Ending of Mark 16

What stands out in Mark 16? The abrupt ending! The way the Gospel of Mark ends is meant to cause us to reflect on the nature of Jesus.

What does the fact of the empty tomb mean? The angels are the first to explain.

2. The Angels and the Bribed Guards in Matthew 28

What stands out in Matthew 28? The story of the bribing of the tomb guards. Matthew 28 includes the account of the hush money paid to the guards who knew better but it concludes with the Great Commission call to proclaim the truth of the resurrection to the ends of the earth!

What was the true narrative of the empty tomb from the One who was raised? The Old Testament is fulfilled!

3. The Explanation and the Road to Emmaus in Luke 24

What stands out in Luke 24? The story of the two on the road to Emmaus.

How did Jesus convince the disciples that He was really alive? He appeared to them alive with many convincing proofs. (Acts 1:3)

4. The Appearances of Jesus and Doubting Thomas in John 20

What stands out in John 20? The story of doubting Thomas.

If Jesus isn't typically appearing to people today like He did for Thomas, how do people come to believe in Jesus? Through the eyewitness testimony of the Apostles.

5. The Commissioning of the Apostles and the Restoration of Peter in John 21

What stands out in John 21? The story of the restoration and commissioning of Peter.

What was Peter to feed Jesus' sheep? The truth of the life and death and resurrection of Jesus!

The Voice of the Resurrection

The women ran from the tomb thinking, "What does this mean?!" (Mark 16) So what does the empty tomb and the resurrection of Jesus say?

- God says, "Jesus is My beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased!" - Romans 1:4
- God says, "Jesus is no sinner!" – Acts 2:24; Romans 6:23
- God says, "Jesus has defeated sin and death!" – 1 John 3:8
- God says, "Jesus is the Savior, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! Payment accepted! Justice satisfied!" – Genesis 22:9- 14
- God says, "Jesus is the Lord/King of all to whom we will all give an account!" – Acts 13:32-33; Psalm 2:1-12
- God says, "To all those who are not trusting in My Son, be very afraid because the Judge is coming!" – Acts 10:40-43
- God says, "To all those who are not trusting in My Son, repent and believe the good news before it's too late!" – Acts 17:30-34; Romans 10:9
- God says, "To all those who trust in My Son, do not be afraid because the Judge is your Savior!" – Romans 8:34
- God says, "To all those who trust in My Son, you are forgiven and righteous in My sight!" – Romans 4:25; 1 Corinthians 15:1-18
- God says, "To all those who trust in My Son, you are raised to walk in newness of life and I will be with you to the end!" – Romans 6:4; Ephesians 1:19-21
- God says, "To all those who trust in My Son, you are loved fully and forever, no matter what you go through!" – Romans 8:31-39; Galatians 2:20
- God says, "To all those who trust in My Son, you will be raised from the dead and inherit all things and have My joy forever!" – Romans 8:11; Acts 13:34; 1 Corinthians 15:19-58