



**Easter - The Power to Change Your Life**  
**Be Encouraged series**  
**Pastor Duane Cross, 04.12.20**

"On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the man said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!'" [Luke 24:1, 4-6](#)

Question #1: How do we know the resurrection really happened?

"I say unequivocally, that the evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ is so powerful that it compels acceptance by proof which leaves absolutely no room for doubt."

Sir Lionel Luckhoo

- 1) Empty Tomb
- 2) Eyewitness Testimony

"I passed on to you what I received, which is of the greatest importance: that Christ died for our sins, as it is written in the Scriptures; that he was buried, and was raised to life on the third day as written in the Scriptures. He appeared to Peter...to the twelve...to more than 500 brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living...to James...to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also." [1 Corinthians 15:3-8](#)

- 3) Existence of an Energized Church
- 4) Existence of Transformed Lives

"Indeed, taking all the evidence together, it is not too much to say that there is no historic incident better or more variously supported than the resurrection of Christ."

Canon Westcott, Cambridge University

Question #2: What difference does it make?

1) Pardon from my Past

"He has forgiven all our sins...and cancelled every record of the debt we owed; Christ has done away with it by nailing it to the cross." [Colossians 2:14 \(JB\)](#)

"When someone becomes a Christian, he becomes a brand new person inside. He is not the same anymore. A new life has begun!" [2 Corinthians 5:17 \(LB\)](#)

2) Power in the Present

"I pray that you will know how great his power is for those who have put their trust in Him. It is the same power that raised Christ from the dead." [Ephesians 1:19-20](#)

3) Promise for your Future

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?'"  
[John 11:25-26](#)