

## **SERMON NOTES: Easter April 24, 2011**

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### **“Riding the Elevator”**

Mark 16:1-8, 1 Corinthians 15:1-6, Romans 6:1-12

#### **The Blur of Jesus’ last Weeks to Jesus’ Followers**

*From the North to the South . . . From the Country to the City  
From Success to Greater Success . . . From Success to Arrest  
From Hope to Despair . . . From Despair to Hope  
From Death to Resurrection*

#### **A New Set of ‘Easter Questions’ About Jesus:**

If Jesus is Alive . . . **then** . .

1. What About his Claims? Arrogant or Accurate?

*John 10:30 (I and the father are One)*

*Matthew 16:16 (The Christ, the Son of the Living God)*

2. What About his Death? Sad or Significant?

*1 Corinthians 15:1-3 (for our Sins)*

*Hebrews 10:12 (a sacrifice to end all sacrifices)*

3. What About his Mission? Over or Ongoing?

*Matthew 28:19-20(Go!)*

#### **A New set of ‘Easter Questions’ About Their Message:**

If Jesus is Alive . . . **then they must proclaim**

1. The Claims, the Death, the Mission . . . Jesus’ Resurrection

But also

2. Our Resurrection too! in the Future . . later

*Romans 6:6 “If we have been united with him in a death like his*

*. . . we shall also be united with him in a resurrection like his”*

And

- 3a. Our Resurrection too! in the Present . . here and now

*Romans 6:4,11 “just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of God, so we too might walk in newness of life.*

- 3b. How? “Inside Christ”

*11. You must consider yourselves dead to sin but alive to God*

*in(side) Christ Jesus.”*

#### **Trust Him! . . . Live your life as if you were living inside Jesus’ Life**

**(Romans 6:1-12). . .like stepping inside an airplane or an elevator**

- Comfort: He alone will carry you safely to your destination . . .
- Change: He alone will carry you higher, spiritually and morally, than you could ever go by yourself
- Challenge: It’s a package deal: . . . Only those who chose to go along for the ride now will enjoy the destination later.