

“Doubters Are Welcome at Easter!”
(Matthew 28:17; John 20:19-31)

I. Introduction:

- A. The questions
- B. The answers

II. Exposition:

A. The **contrast** (Matthew 28:17)

1. Mark 16:1
2. Mark 16:11
3. Luke 24:11
4. Matthew 27:62-66

B. The **chief** (John 20:19-31)

1. Courageous (John 11:16)
 - Commitment
 - Loyalty
2. Confused (John 14:1-6)
 - Honesty
 - Boldness
3. Cautious (John 20:19-25)
 - Grief
 - Proof
4. Confident (20:26-31)
 - Declaration
 - Climax of the gospel of John

C. The **consequence** (I Corinthians 15:12-19)

- Preaching is in vain (v. 14)
- Your faith is in vain (v. 14)
- False witnesses (v. 15)
- Your faith is worthless (v. 17)
- You are still in your sins (v. 17)
- The dead in Christ have perished (v. 18)
- We are to be pitied (v. 19)

D. The **conviction** (John 1; 1 John 1)

1. The question: What convinced them?
2. The answer: **The Risen Jesus!**
 - John 1:1, 14, 18
 - 1 John 1:1-4

III. Conclusion:

- Comment from Charles Haddon Spurgeon
- Comment from the Life Application Bible Notes

Questions to reflect on individually and discuss in Small Groups:

1. What stuck out to you from the message? (What's your keeper?)
2. What doubts about faith, the resurrection of Jesus and Christianity in general, do you, as a believer or unbeliever, find most persistent in your thinking? How are you addressing those doubts?
3. If the resurrection of Jesus was not true, look at the consequences stated by Paul in **1 Corinthians 15:12-19**. What most impacts you from this list?
4. The Risen Jesus Christ is what convinced the disciples. How does the Risen Christ, as revealed in the Bible convince you?
5. What stuck out to you from the conclusion?
6. Finish this sentence with the primary thing that God is leading you to do: "In light of these passages and this discussion, I will ..." (What is your action point?)