

E A S T E R



Invitation to Believe

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Scripture: John 19:16–18, 30, 35, 38–42; 20:2–8, 24–31

Introduction

[I love Easter. At Easter, we celebrate...]

The **Resurrection** of Jesus

[The resurrection points to the answer of a question everyone should ask.]

Who is Jesus?

[The resurrection convinced his first-century followers that he was the Son of God. Resurrection has been convincing people ever since. You should know...]

We don't believe Jesus rose from the dead **because** the Bible tells us so.

[We believe this because Matthew, Mark, Luke, Peter, James, and Paul documented it in the first century. They recorded what they saw and heard during the time they were with Jesus. They collected and protected their accounts, which were later put into the volume called the Bible.]

The **story** of Jesus wasn't worth telling **apart** from the resurrection.

[The folks closest to the action were honest. They expected Jesus to do what dead people usually do.]

Nobody expected **no** body.

[John was a witness of both the crucifixion and the resurrection. He wrote a detailed account of each. Like others at the time, he didn't expect either. He expected a king. After Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, there was great momentum and an increase of people putting their faith in him.]

Many believed in him.

Too many!

