

The image features a central dark brown circle containing the word "Easter" in a white, elegant cursive font. A simple, light-colored cross is positioned behind the letter 't'. Below "Easter", the words "sermon series" are written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. The circle is set against a background of a bright yellow sun with rays extending across the top half of the frame. The bottom half of the frame is a dark, textured brown, with a grey, thorny crown of thorns graphic arching across it.

*Easter*  
sermon series



The graphic features a bright yellow sun with rays in the upper half and a dark green landscape in the lower half. A dark brown circle is centered over the horizon, containing the word 'Easter' in a white script font with a gold cross integrated into the letter 't'. Below 'Easter' is the text 'sermon series' in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. A grey crown of thorns is positioned around the bottom of the dark brown circle.

*Easter*  
sermon series

**EASTER** SUNDAY



# Why is Easter of the Utmost Importance?

*Easter*  
sermon series



## JOHN 20:1-23

<sup>1</sup> Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” <sup>3</sup> So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.





## JOHN 20:1-23

<sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, <sup>7</sup> and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he **SAW AND BELIEVED;**





# Assumptions Today

## You as the New Creation vs. a New Creation

**2 Corinthians 5:17:** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

**Galatians 6:14–15:** But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation.





## JOHN 20:1-23

<sup>9</sup> for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went back to their homes. <sup>11</sup> But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. <sup>13</sup> They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”





## JOHN 20:1-23

<sup>14</sup> Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”





# Two Conclusions of the Resurrection

1. Jesus really is the Son of God
2. A Preview to the promise of New Creation





## JOHN 20:1-23

<sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her. <sup>19</sup> On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”





**1 Peter 1:3-5:** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, <sup>4</sup> to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, **KEPT IN HEAVEN FOR YOU,** <sup>5</sup> who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.





**Romans 8:10-11:** But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus[a] from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.





# JOHN 20:1-23

<sup>20</sup> When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”







Present Age

New Creation



*Easter*  
sermon series



**1Corinthians 15:54-58:** When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.” <sup>55</sup> “O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” <sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>58</sup> Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.





# Conclusion

The resurrection is not about giving things up  
but about taking things up!

