

Title: Christ My King: Trust

Our theme for 2021 is "Christ My King." The first Sunday of each month, I am preaching a sermon focused on the theme. In January, we began by focusing on Honoring Christ. For the next three months we are focusing on trusting Christ as our King. Last week, the text I preached from was Matthew 14:22-33. We considered the miracle of Jesus walking on water. We read about Peter walking on water. I love both of these events! In our study, we also saw how quickly doubt crept into Peter's heart. The response from Jesus was, "**You of little faith, why did you doubt?**"

We have every reason to trust in Christ. In Matthew 28:6, the angel told Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, "**He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.**" Jesus did what He said He would do! The tomb is empty. Jesus is risen. It's important to take time to revisit the empty tomb. Spending time meditating on the resurrection will certainly increase our faith. Consider a few thoughts about Jesus, His death, burial, and resurrection.

1. **Jesus died on the cross.** *"And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.' Having said this, He breathed His last. Now when the centurion saw what had happened, he began praising God, saying, 'Certainly this man was innocent.'" Luke 23:46*
2. **His body was laid in a tomb.** *"And a man named Joseph...this man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. And he took it down and wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid Him in a tomb cut into the rock, where no one had ever lain. Luke 23:50, 52-53*
3. **The tomb was securely guarded.** *"Now on the next day, the day after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, and said, 'Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I am to rise again.' Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, otherwise His disciples may come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first.'" Matthew 27:62-64*
4. **He rose from the grave on the first day of the week.** *"But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. Luke 24:1-3 A miracle occurred! The angel would then say, "Why do you seek the living One from the dead? He is not here, but He has risen..."*

5. **Many people saw him alive.** *“...And that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep.” 1 Corinthians 15:4-6*

Let us trust in our King! He does what He says He will do.

- Benjamin Lee