

THE BIGGEST SURPRISE OF EASTER!

Text: Selected Scriptures

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Introduction

Matthew 28:1-17
Mark 16:9-14
John 20:24-31

I. WHAT DOESN'T SURPRISE ME ABOUT THE EASTER STORY

A) I'm not surprised that Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James were the first at the tomb that Easter morning.

Mark 16:9

B) I'm not surprised that angels are found seated at the empty tomb.

Luke 2:8-15
Matthew 4:11
Luke 22:43
1 Thessalonians 4:16

C) I'm not surprised that that big old stone had been rolled away!

Matthew 27:65
Mark 16:4

D) I'm not surprised that the high priests and religious leaders paid off the soldiers to tell a lie and continued to brainwash the populace.

Psalms 14:1

E) I'm not surprised that Jesus did exactly what He said He was going to do. **Matthew 28:6**

John 14:6
Matthew 16:21
Matthew 17:22-23
Matthew 20:18-19
Matthew 26:32
Matthew 26:61
Revelation 1:17b-18
John 11:25-26
Matthew 17:21

II. WHAT DOES SURPRISE ME ABOUT THE EASTER STORY

A) I am surprised by the unbelief of the disciples!

Matthew 28:17
Mark 16:11
Mark 16:13
John 20:25
Mark 16:14
John 20:27
Luke 24:8

B) I am surprised that so many today still think that Easter is about religion – rather than relationship!

John 11:25-26
John 3:3
Ephesians 2:8-9
Matthew 7:21-23

C) I am surprised that so many still live life like a sinner – when they could be living it like a saint!

Romans 8:9, 11
Ephesians 3:20
John 10:10
Philippians 3:10
Galatians 2:20

D) I am surprised that so many will be surprised when they stand before the Lord one day!

John 14:1-3
Acts 1:7
Acts 1:11
Matthew 24:42, 44
1 Thessalonians 5:2
Hebrews 9:27

E) I am surprised that so many people fail to understand, that the Easter story is about second chances!

Mark 16:7
1 Corinthians 15:5

Conclusion

Philippians 1:21

- The biggest surprise of Easter would be ...

John 3:16