

Recap of 4/21/19 (John 20:1-31):

1. *"Easter Sunday is the most triumphant and joyous day in the calendar of the Christian Church—and it should be! For many people the resurrection of Jesus Christ is symbolized by new Easter clothes, or the bright color of daffodils and beautiful, white Easter lilies. But most of all, the wonder of His resurrection is symbolized in the hope that beats in the hearts of believers everywhere..." It is the message 'Jesus is alive!' that lifts Christianity out of the category of dead superstitions and archaic religions and makes it the abiding faith of millions. The angel's message is true: 'He is not here, but is risen.'" (Billy Graham)*

2. *Jesus appeared ten times over 40 days to over 500 people after the resurrection. Of these ten, John records four of them:*

-The appearance to Mary Magdalene. 20:11-18

-The appearance to the 10 Apostles (with Thomas absent). 20:19-25

-The appearance to the 11 Apostles (with Thomas present). 20:26-29

-The appearance to 7 Apostles by the Sea of Galilee. 21:1-14

3. *John authenticates the resurrection and by it the deity of Jesus Christ, by:*

-The empty tomb. 20:1,2

-The position and order of the grave clothes. 20:3-8

-The repeated surprise of the disciples over the resurrection (it was not something they were they were expecting).

-The appearances of Jesus after the resurrection.

-The change in disposition of Mary and the Disciples from fear, gloom, and sorrow to rejoicing.

4. *"How did she [Mary] respond [to Jesus freeing her from 7 demons]? By becoming a devoted follower of Christ who not only talked the talk, but walked the walk.... Her life, values, priorities—all had been changed, radically, transformed by the grace of Jesus Christ!"*