

"Empty" Promises of Easter

- ✚ Jesus and our message about Him go straight to the root of the matter: **Hebrews 2:14-15**.
- ✚ There is no difference between us and the grass of the field, sooner or later we all keel over!
Psalms 103:15-16
- ✚ Today we are given promises that nobody's keeping and then we have Promises that nobody needs.
It's all **Emptiness!**
- ✚ But God's promises are different: instead of promises full of emptiness like we get in our world, God's given us emptiness on Easter that is full of promise.

This morning we are going to take a look at the promises of Easter and see that each promise is marked by something empty.

1. The first empty thing of Easter that is so full of promise for us is, of course, the empty tomb.
 - ✓ Do you know why it was empty? The Sunday school answer is "because Jesus was alive".
 - ✓ He was alive to be sure, but it wasn't just in place of being dead, there was something more to it than that.
 - ✓ **Romans 4:25**; When you send law breaker to prison, how do you know when his debt has been paid? When they let him go!!
 - ✓ Jesus was no law breaker, but He came to take the place of all of us law breakers.
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2. The second empty thing that held so much promise was Jesus emptying Himself.
 - ✓ **Ephesians 1:23**; We are empty, so He emptied Himself so we could be filled.
 - ✓ It's not the coronavirus that is killing us, sin is! We have been emptied out by sin.
 - ✓ **Philippians 2:6-7**; He became just like us, so we could become like Him.
 - ✓ Then on the cross He emptied Himself of the last thing He had left, life, true life, to fill the void that death had left in this world.
 - ✓ His last words as He emptied Himself were: "It is finished" do you know what that means?
 - ✓ It means that everything that needed to be done for us had been done.
 - ✓ **It means that for our empty lives there is fullness of life in Jesus Christ.**
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3. The third empty thing of Easter that carries such a full promise is the empty cross.
 - ✓ Cross was a Roman form of execution so a once a person was dead they could be taken down.
 - ✓ It means that the only One who could take our place and pay for the debt that our sins earned did just that.
 - ✓ **Romans 6:23** → Believe it, in God's justice system, sin has to be paid for.
 - ✓ Don't believe anyone who says that Jesus didn't die, because that was really the only thing that Jesus came down here to do

1st Timothy 1:15, Matthew 20:28, John 10:11

- ✓ An empty cross guarantees the promise that our sins have been fully paid for.
 - ✓ An empty life tells us that Jesus held nothing back that we needed.
 - ✓ An empty tomb tells us that it's a done deal—it only remains for us to receive it.
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