

NAMING OUR ENDINGS

LUKE 24:22-27 | ERIC SIMPSON | APRIL 26, 2020

Luke 24:22-27

22 In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23 but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. 24 Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." 25 He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

paschal = Hebrew (pasach) = pass over

The Paschal Mystery

- Crucifixion – name our deaths
- Resurrection – claim our births
- The 40 days – grieve what you have lost and adjust to the new reality
- Ascension – let go of the old, refuse to cling to what was, let it ascend
- Pentecost – accept the new spirit for this new life that you are in fact living

"The idea that we're all supposed to be positive all the time has become an American obsession. It gives us momentum and purpose to feel like the best is yet to come. But the problem is when it becomes a kind of poison, in which it expects that people who are suffering — which is pretty much everyone right now — are somehow always supposed to find the silver lining or not speak realistically about their circumstances. The main problem is that it adds shame to suffering, by just requiring everyone to be prescriptively joyful. If I see one more millionaire on Instagram yell that she is choosing joy, while selling journals in which stay-at-home moms are supposed to write joy mantras, I am going to lose my mind!" – Kate Bowler

- **The death of our youth...**

"Some of the happiest people in the whole world are seventy years old and some of the unhappiest people in the world are that age. The difference is not in who has kept himself or herself the slimmest and most youthful-looking, but in Pentecost. The happy seventy-year-old is a woman or a man who has received the spirit for someone that age—that spirit which scripture says is given to each of us in a most particular way for each particular circumstance in life."

– Ronald Rolheiser

- **The death of our wholeness...**

- **The death of our dreams...**

"The meek man is not a human mouse afflicted with a sense of his own inferiority. Rather, he may be in his moral life as bold as a lion and as strong as Samson; but he has stopped being fooled about himself. He has accepted God's estimate of his own life...In himself, nothing; in God, everything. That is his motto." – A.W. Tozer

This week...

- Spend some time creating two lists:
 "But I had hoped..."
 "But I never expected..."
- Join us Wednesday night for a time of *guided processing* of the Paschal Mystery