

# Mark 15:46

by Chuck Smith

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*The sermon explores the significance of Jesus' death and resurrection, highlighting the death of His concepts of God, passion to redeem, and religion, and the central fact of Christianity that Christ had risen from the dead.*

**Scripture:** Matthew 28:6, Mark 15:46, Luke 24:5-6, John 3:16, John 11:25-26, John 14:9, Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 15:17, Ephesians 2:8-9, Hebrews 11:1

**Topics:** "Hope in Christ", "Resurrection"

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## Description

Chuck Smith discusses the significance of the stone against the tomb of Jesus, symbolizing the death of key concepts of God, passion for redemption, and true religion. He emphasizes that the tomb contained a dead concept of God, a dead passion to redeem the lost, and a dead religion, all of which were rejected by humanity. The ugliness of Christ's death reflects the denial of His grace and truth, leaving humanity in despair. However, the rolling away of the stone signifies hope and the reality of Christ's resurrection, inviting people to witness the empty tomb and understand the central truth of Christianity. Ultimately, faith in the resurrection is essential for understanding and experiencing the fullness of God's love and redemption.

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## Transcript

Intro: A stone against the door of the tomb. Events of that day - Death's victory.

### I. WHAT LAY WITHIN THAT TOMB?

A. A dead concept of God.

1. "Show us the Father and it sufficeth us."

2. "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father."

a. We reflect our God by what we are.

b. Every man has a god even if he denies our God.

1. Money, pleasure, fame, lust.

- c. He that sees you will also see your God because
  - a man becomes like his God.
- 3. Christ brought to us these concepts of God.
  - a. Grace and truth.
  - b. Mercy and justice.
  - c. Peace and righteousness.
- 4. His concepts were rejected and now lay dead and a stone was against the door of the tomb.
- B. A dead passion to redeem the lost. Who is lost?
  - 1. This was the story of His life "for the Son of Man."
  - 2. Something new.
    - a. Absent in Hebrew.
    - b. Laughed at by wisdom religion and philosophy of Greeks.
  - 3. Men had high ideals before Christ.
    - a. Desired to create something new.
      - 1. desire inspired all artistic creation.
      - b. Desired to know truth.
        - 1. desire inspired their philosophy.
      - c. Desired to preserve good.
        - 1. basis of all human government.
    - 4. Here in Christ - something different.
      - a. Took that life that was defaced and made it a thing of beauty.
      - b. He touched the false and make it true.
      - c. He took the bad and made it good.
  - 5. This was the passion of Jesus but it now lies dead in

the tomb and a stone is rolled against the door.

C. A dead religion.

1. A religion that led men to have faith in God - God of love.
2. Purpose to be realized by loving God and loving now.
3. But now the men whom He loved, those He sought to save have crucified Him and this religion lies dead and a stone has been rolled against the door of the tomb.

II. THE UGLINESS OF HIS DEATH.

A. His concept of God was denied.

1. No grace or truth - mercy or justice righteousness or peace.
2. His concept was refused and God was withdrawn from man by man's own choice.

B. His passion to redeem was refused also.

1. Man is not worth saving, ideals of philosophy already.
2. Moreover, it was impossible to fling it out.
3. They were right outside of Christ it was impossible and now He was dead in the tomb.

C. If this is the end then all hope for man is dead, and the graves and tombs today only accent His failure.

III. SEQUEL TO THIS STORY - VS 1-6.

A. The stone is rolled back!

1. The fact that the stone was rolled back was not the supreme fact - but what it indicated.
  - a. Stone not rolled back to let Jesus out.
  - b. Stone rolled back to let people in to be

convinced of what they saw.

2. What did they see?

a. The empty tomb and the grave clothes being undisturbed.

3. The empty tomb showed the fact that Christ had risen!

a. Central fact of Christianity if it is not true

Christianity is doomed.

4. A fact that only can be explained by revelation. "God raised Him from the dead."

a. Whether you believe the revelation or not may depend on our concept of God.

5. Fact can only be proved by faith in heart.

a. "Believe in thy heart."

b. No man knows Jesus rose from the dead except those who in helplessness of soul trusted in this.

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