

Jesus, the Original Easter Egg

Today is the day we unleash the kids to find Easter eggs all over the church! **1450** eggs to be found, placed in baskets, cracked open, & enjoyed!

We know that the kids are here today for the eggs! But what about you? What if I told you that there is an Easter egg hunt for you today as well?

The title of the sermon this morning is: “Jesus the Original Easter Egg”! Why would I refer to Jesus in such a way? Is it because...

- Like an Easter egg hunt, people have been searching for the Messiah for a long time - since the beginning!
- Like an Easter egg hunt, some people find Him, and others do not!
- Like an Easter egg hunt, when Jesus is found, we discover that there is more to Him than what is seen on the outside!
- Like an Easter egg hunt, there is great joy in the pursuit & discovery of Jesus!
- Like an Easter egg hunt, Jesus is the One who can fill our baskets to the full! (remember the loaves and fish)!
- Or maybe, the chocolate bunnies who often try to steal the focus away from Jesus during this season, have simply stolen the motto we learned from Jesus when Jesus said, “Come and eat my flesh!”

Now, I could have taken any of these themes and ran with them this morning, but I have a different idea in mind for an adult Easter egg hunt!

The kids may be finding Easter eggs filled w/candy. But we are going to find Easter eggs filled w/Scripture from the Words of Jesus found in John’s gospel!

There is another definition of “Easter Egg” that I want to draw our attention to this morning – and these eggs are found in movies, video games, etc.

These Easter eggs are defined as secret images, messages, features, or actions that are embedded within movies or video games that are easily overlooked at first glance! Examples:

It is the hunt to find them, & discover their meaning, that makes it fun!

There are secret Easter eggs in John’s gospel that were first overlooked when Jesus first declared them. But once the full reveal was unveiled, it gave greater definition and understanding to those Easter eggs!

We have talked about a few of them already, and a few others we will talk about in the coming weeks.

Here’s the first Easter egg revealed:

1) “I am the bread of life!” – John 6:35

Can you guess any of the others?

2) John 8:12; 9:5 - “I am the light of the world!”

3) John 10:7,9 – “I am the door of the sheep!”

4) John 10:11 – “I am the good shepherd!”

5) John 11:25 – “I am the resurrection and the life!”

6) John 14:6 – “I am the way, the truth, and the life!”

7) John 15:1 – “I am the true vine!”

These teaching are known as the “I Am” statements of Jesus! They carry weight by themselves, but the “Easter egg” ah ha moment comes in John 8!

8) John 8:58 - “Before Abraham was, I am!”

Jesus not only claimed to be a prophet, priest, and king! And He not only claimed to be the Messiah! Here Jesus is claiming to be God!

To say “Before Abraham was, I am!” Jesus was taking His listeners all the way back to Moses & the burning bush when God said, “I AM WHO I AM!”

Jesus was also taking them all the way back to their father Abraham, and claiming to be before and even greater than even him!

Jesus was taking His claims to a whole new level! And with this revelation, the Easter eggs were discovered! Jesus was saying it the whole time, but this one statement pulled them all together into one outlandish claim!

It was here that many baskets got lighter, and some that got more full! Is your Easter basket getting more full, or is your basket Jesus-lite?

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