



SERMON OUTLINE APRIL 3, 2016

## “Genuine Joy”

John 20:19-31

INTRODUCTION “*Cross or Crucifix?*”

### I. THE BIBLE SPEAKS OF A **GENUINE JOY** IN CONNECTION WITH JESUS’ CRUCIFIXION

- A. In all of the resurrection accounts, there is a similar pattern
- B. • **Fear** (and sorrow due to Jesus’ death)
  - **Joy** (when meeting the risen Jesus)
  - **Faith** (a confession of who Jesus really is)
  - **Witness** (the person is asked by Jesus to “spread the news!”)
- C. This is true of today’s Gospel account in **John 20:19-21** with Thomas & the other disciples, with a curious difference . . .

### II. WHEN THOMAS & THE OTHER DISCIPLES SAW JESUS’ CRUCIFIXION WOUNDS, THEY HAD A **GENUINE JOY**

- A. We might expect Jesus’ crucifixion wounds would bring them shame or bitter memories
- B. But St. John tells us they had a *genuine joy*
- C. This is because Jesus’ crucifixion wounds showed His love for them
- D. Martin Luther’s exclamation at the foot of a large crucifix: “*For me! For me!*”
- E. This is also the testimony of many Bible texts: **1 Corinthians 1:23-25; 2:2**
- F. This is the testimony of a Pastor named Norman when He stood on Mt. Calvary . . .

CONCLUSION: *The hymn writer Isaac Watt’s genuine joy in his great hymn: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”*