

Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, "They have taken the Lord's body out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!" Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb. They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in. Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings. Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed—for until then they still hadn't understood the Scriptures that said Jesus must rise from the dead. **John 20:1–9 (NLT)**

## THREE THINGS THE EMPTY TOMB SAYS TO US

### 1. GOD'S LOVE IS UNCONDITIONAL

You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. **Romans 5:6–8 (NIV)**

### 2. GOD'S POWER IS BIGGER THAN MY PROBLEMS

And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last. **Mark 15:37 (NKJV)**

### 3. GOD'S FUTURE IS BETTER THAN MY PAST

Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? **John 14:1–2 (NIV)**

No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him. **1 Corinthians 2:9 (NLT)**

For the wages of sin is death... **Romans 6:23a (NLT)**

...but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord. **Romans 6:23b (NLT)**

For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. **John 3:16 (NLT)**

We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. **Romans 3:22–24 (NLT)**

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