

Jesus Points to Easter: What Does Easter Point to?
(Easter in John's Gospel Testimony)

Grace Chapel

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INTRODUCTION

THREE MAIN ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. How Jesus' followers viewed *their own* everlasting life (given by Christ):

- A. They did not view their everlasting life as: Believers can _____ die
- B. They viewed their everlasting life as: Believers cannot die _____

2. How Jesus' followers viewed *Jesus Christ's own* everlasting life:

- A. They did not view His everlasting life as: Jesus can _____ die
- B. They viewed His everlasting life as: Jesus cannot die _____

3. How Jesus' followers should have viewed *Jesus Christ's own* everlasting life:

- A. They did not view His everlasting life as: Jesus can _____ die
- B. They viewed His everlasting life as: Jesus cannot die _____

Easter is when it all made sense. Before that, the disciples understood what Jesus did for them (gave them everlasting life), but not what He would do (be crucified and resurrected)

How Jesus followers viewed *their own* everlasting life (given by Christ)

John the Baptist's statement (John 3:36)

The statement by the men of Sychar (John 4:36)

Peter's statement of what he had believed (John 6:68–69 in context)

Consider Peter's words in John 13:36–37

He held no notion that believers could never die (physically).

He believed that believers could not die eternally.

Consider Thomas' words in John 11:16

He held no notion that believers could never die (physically).

He believed that believers could not die eternally.

Martha's statement of what she had believed (John 11:27 in context)

She held no notion that believers could never die (physically).

She believed that believers could not die eternally.

How Jesus followers viewed Jesus Christ's own everlasting life (given by Christ)

For 3½ years they rejected the idea that Jesus would be crucified/raised

John 2:22 in context

John 12:32 in context

John 13:18 and 21 in context

Explaining why Jesus' followers rejected His teaching on cross/resurrection for 3½ years

Everlasting Life of sons of God (believers)	Everlasting life of the Son of God (Christ)
EL meant that could not die forever, but they knew that they would be resurrected (if they died physically)	He could not die forever, so they thought He could never die. The correct understanding is that: He could not die forever, but He would die and be resurrected. Once raised, He would never die again.

Looking at the crucifixion through the disciples' eyes (John 19:18ff.)

The crucifixion proper (John 19:18–24)

Jesus' instructions to John concerning Mary (John 19:25–28)

Jesus' death and the completion of His work (John 19:29–37)

Two disciples give Jesus a royal burial (John 19:38–42)

Looking at Jesus' resurrection through the disciples' eyes (John 20:1ff.)

Peter & John went to the tomb to see if Jesus' body had been stolen (John 20:1–10)

Mary Magdalene sees the risen Christ (John 20:11–18)

On Easter evening Jesus appeared to ten of the eleven (John 20:19–23)

A week later, Thomas believes that Jesus was resurrected (John 19:24–29)

What should unbelievers conclude from Jesus' resurrection (John 20:30–31)?

What should believers conclude from Jesus' resurrection (based on 20:30–31)?

CONCLUSION