

# **Sermon Notes**

## **April 16, 2017 (Easter)**

### **“Afraid, Yet Filled With Joy”**

#### **Matthew 28:1-10**

#### **Pastor Bill Hoffman**

#### **Jesus is risen – it’s true!**

Claims most historians – Christian & non-Christian – regard to be facts:

- Jesus died and was buried.
- His tomb was empty the following Sunday.
- Numerous witnesses testified to seeing him alive again, often at great peril to themselves.

For further investigation, search online:

- N.T. Wright on Jesus’ Resurrection. (video presentations from two minutes to two hours in length)
- Mike Licona vs. Richard Carrier debates. (two top notch historians, a Christian and an atheist, look at the evidence. 2010 debate in Topeka, KS is especially good.)

#### **And it’s good news that matters greatly! Some reasons why:**

- Demonstrates death is not the end of life.
- Legitimizes Jesus’ teaching.
- Shows Jesus’ death really did atone for sins.
- Gives reason for hope in a broken world.
- For further reflection see the testimonies on the East Main Easter Video. Contact any of East Main’s pastoral staff members for more resources or conversation.