

## Resurrection Sunday 2025

This Easter, hundreds of millions of people woke up before daylight and attended an Easter sunrise service. Have you ever wondered why Easter is the only holiday we celebrate at the break of dawn? Why do Christians do this? Because it was at the break of dawn, on a brand-new day, when Jesus' followers heard the news that He had risen from the dead—and *that changed everything*.

The Bible says, *"At dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay'"* (Matthew 28:1-6 NIV).

### So Why Does Easter Change Everything?

Because it proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that Jesus Christ is who He said He was. Jesus made some outrageous claims about Himself. He claimed to be the Son of God and the only way to heaven. In John 14:6, Jesus said, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me"* (NIV).

Many people throughout history have claimed to be God. But the difference with Jesus is that he was the only one who predicted His death, laid down His life, and physically rose again. Jesus said, *"I'm going to prove what I claimed about Myself. I'm going to die for the sins of the world, and three days later I'm going to raise myself back to life."* And that's exactly what he did.

And it all happened on the dawn of a new day. Luke 1:78 says, *"A new day will dawn on us from above because our God is loving and merciful"* (GW). God made you to love you, and He gave us undeniable evidence through Jesus' death and resurrection.

No matter what you've done or where you've been, you've got a place in God's forever family ready and waiting for you. If you're not completely certain you've responded to His invitation to come to Him. If you're not certain you've received His gift of forgiveness and eternal life, why wait any longer? Pray and tell Him today:

*"Father God, I believe Jesus Christ is your Son. I confess I have sinned, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus died to take away my sins and that you raised him to life. I want to trust Jesus as my Savior and follow him as Lord from this day forward. Guide my life and help me to do your will. In Jesus' name I pray."* Now, tell someone today what you've done.