

Combined Discussion Questions for “The King Dies” & “The King Rises”
Luke 23:44-49 & Luke 24:1-12, Pastor Tom Olson, Weekend of April 3rd-5th, 2026

Sermon Outline

“The King Dies” (Good Friday)

- Consider the darkness (Luke 23:44-45)
- Consider the torn curtain (Luke 23:45)
- Consider the loud voice (Luke 23:46)

“The King Rises” (Easter)

What’s at stake in the resurrection?

- The identity of Christ
- The power of the cross
- The hope of salvation
- The Word of Jesus
- The whole of Christianity

Three reasons for resurrection certainty:

- The empty tomb (Luke 24:3)
- Skeptical followers
 - The women (Luke 24:1-4)
 - The apostles (Luke 24:9-11)
 - Peter (Luke 24:12)
- Fulfilled promise (Luke 24:5-8)

Sermon Questions

1. Easter is a good time for some self-assessment of your walk with Jesus:
 - a. How’s your *heart* doing – joyful, weary, apathetic?
 - b. How’s your *mind* doing – full of faith, full of questions?

2. What about the events of Good Friday...
 - a. ...can strengthen your *heart*?
 - b. ...can strengthen your *mind*?

3. What about the events of Easter...
 - a. ...can strengthen your *heart*?
 - b. ...can strengthen your *mind*?

(Questions continue on next page.)

4. Sometimes, the hard times we go through can prepare and equip us to help others going through a similar trial. Is there anything you've described above...
 - a. ...that might help one of your Christian friends?
 - b. ...that might help one of your friends who isn't a Christian?
5. Speaking of helping others, how would you explain to someone the reason(s) why Christ had to die?
6. In the same spirit, how would you explain the reason(s) why you're convinced that Jesus Christ really did rise from the dead?
7. Any other takeaways from these passages or message?