

AFTER EASTER

Mark 16:19-20

Mark's is the shortest of the 4 gospels, and as you concluded reading it this week you may have noticed many think it should have been even shorter! After 16:8 you should see something similar to these words:
[The earliest manuscripts and some other ancient witnesses do not have Mark 16:9-20.]

First: understand there is nothing in these verses not also recorded in one or more of the other gospels.

Second: understand there is nothing in these verses that *contradicts* any information found in any other gospel record, nor elsewhere in the New Testament. The only dispute is whether it was written by Mark or someone else.

Third: Mark's Gospel is obviously incomplete without these verses. Ending at verse 8 is not the whole truth of the gospel.

Mark 16:19-20 a message I'm calling... ***After Easter!*** Many want to end the gospel with the resurrection. That's Easter, and it's mega-important! But the Gospel goes beyond Easter... beyond the resurrection... ***there is an ascension... and there will be a return!***

I. The Ascension into heaven is:

THE ULTIMATE _____ OF THE LIFE AND CLAIMS OF JESUS.

II. The Ascension is also:

THE JUSTIFICATION OF OUR _____ IN JESUS.

III. The Ascension:

GIVES JESUS THE RIGHT TO RETURN TO _____ MEN.

What I Will Do With This Message: _____
