Acts 2:22-28 **Easter** April 1, 2018

***You Can’t Keep a Good Man Down***

22*“Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through Him, as you yourselves know.* 23*This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put Him to death by nailing Him to the cross.* 24*But God raised Him from the dead, freeing Him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on Him.* 25*David said about Him: “ ‘I saw the Lord always before me. Because He is at my*

 *right hand, I will not be shaken.* 26*Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, 27because you will not abandon me to Hades, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.* 28*You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.’”* - Acts 2:22-28

**Three Things That Couldn’t Keep Jesus Down**

1. Doubters couldn’t keep Jesus down.

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2. Death couldn’t keep Jesus down.

24*“But God raised Him from the dead, freeing Him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on Him.”* - Acts 2:24

62*“The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate.* 63*“Sir,” they said, “we remember that while He was still alive that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise again.’* 64*So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, His disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that He has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first.”* 65*“Take a guard,” Pilate answered. “Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how.”* 66*So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard.’”* - Matthew 27:62-66

3. The Devil couldn’t keep Jesus down.

27*“...You will not abandon me to Hades, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.”*

• Before the Resurrection you couldn’t keep the disciples up.

• After the Resurrection you couldn’t keep the disciples down.

When Jesus arose from the dead the disciples knew

that nothing was impossible.

**Easter is about attitudes.**

A. Easter is an attitude toward life.

 *What is a difficult problem in my life right now?*

B. Easter is an attitude toward death.

C. Easter is an attitude about God.

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***You Can’t Keep a Good Man Down***

A mother of a small child wrote, "My kids are like camels. They can play all day in the blazing sun and never think of water, but at bedtime, as soon as their heads hit the pillow, they suddenly discover their unquenchable thirst.

The other night my three-year-old son and I had been through the regular routine; story, prayer, hugs. Then, as my hand slid down the light switch, I heard, "I want a gink." He can't say "drink", and I thought it was kind of cute. "Gink."

But I was firm. "You just had a drink when you brushed your teeth. Now it's time to go to sleep."

At last the kids were all in bed. Peace. Silence.

I sat in my nice chair and began to sort through the mail.

"I want a gink" came from the darkness.

"Gink" lost some of its cuteness.

"No more water. Go to sleep."

Quietness reigned for at least 60 seconds.

"Daddy, I want a gink."

"Be quiet." My husband said firmly.

"I want a gink."

I knew how Moses felt in the wilderness with a million Israelites all crying out "I want a gink."

"Gink" was no longer cute.

I yelled down the hallway into the darkness, "If I hear you ask for a gink one more time, if I hear one sound from you, I'm going to come down there and spank you and I'm not kidding. Now be quiet and go to sleep!"

It was as quiet as a tomb. Not a sound. One could have heard a pin drop. It was so silent that I couldn't concentrate on the mail.

Then, the still, small voice of a child who smelled victory:

"Daddy, when you come in here to spank me, could you bring me a gink of water?"