

# EASTER - THE LAST WORD

## THE LAST WORD

### **A. Different applications**

1. The last thing said in an argument
2. The right to make a directive that must be followed
3. Information/fact that is considered to be the best

## EASTER'S LAST WORD

### **A. Meant Peter's mistake would not have to define him**

1. With Jesus for three years; part of the inner circle; top leadership candidate
2. In a moment of fear and confusion he denied any involvement with Jesus
3. But God singled him out - not for punishment, for forgiveness (*Mark 16:6-7 NIV*)

### **B. Meant the disciple's fear would not cripple them**

1. An extremely difficult time for this group
2. The resurrected Jesus had an answer for their fears (*John 20:19-21 NIV*)

### **C. Meant that death was not nearly as final**

1. Jesus went to the grave of a friend and offered more than kind words (*John 11:25 NKJ*)
2. A few days after this Jesus Himself was raised from the dead

## WHEN EASTER HAS THE LAST WORD IN YOUR LIFE

### **A. You have freedom from your past**

1. Many have been like Peter and allowed their past mistakes to define them
2. If Jesus loved you enough to go the cross and God loved you enough to raise Him up (*Romans 4:25 NLT*)

### **B. You have new strength for today**

1. Life can be hard, pressures and problems
2. When challenges rise up it's not uncommon to lock the doors and hide
3. But Jesus who conquered all life/death could throw at Him gave you a promise (*Hebrews 13:5b - 6 NKJ*)

### **C. You have hope for the future**

1. Life comes at you fast - the older you get the faster it comes
2. No matter how pristine your past or vibrant your strength is for today all of us face death
3. Because of Easter, because Jesus was raised from the dead - you can have a hope past this life (*1 Corinthians 15:55 NIV*)