

John 20:1-6, 11-18- Mary Magdalene and Jesus!

TSK, GreekLexicon, Calvin, Henry, Gill, Poole, Barnes, Clarke, Vincent, Robertson, Trapp, Alexander, Geneva, Brink, Lightfoot, Handfuls, INT Beloved in the Lord: **Jesus' disciples had no expectation of his resurrection and made no plans for it.** They were so certain Jesus would still be dead that some women went to take care of his dead body on the Sunday after his crucifixion to complete the preservation process.

But God showed them! God showed them Jesus was raised from the dead for them! This is what you will hear about today.

Our headings are:

Mary Magdalene saw Jesus was raised from the dead

Mary Magdalene heard Jesus was raised from the dead

Mary Magdalene meets Jesus who was raised from the dead

Our goals are: That you will believe and **rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus,** knowing he was raised from the dead for you, and you will work to **spread the message of his resurrection** so the world can be saved.

Mary Magdalene saw Jesus was raised from the dead

1 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

1. Early in the morning, about sunrise, Mary Magdalene (and others) went to Jesus' tomb and realized the stone that sealed Jesus' tomb was rolled away.

Mary and the women had courage, though their knowledge was lacking. Jesus had prophesied he would rise on the 3rd day.

They forgot Christ would be the "Deer of the Morning" (Psalm 22), the Bright and Morning Star (Rev. 22:16), and the "Sun of Righteousness with healing in his wings." (Malachi 4) So they brought spices that would preserve his dead body and make the area smell better. They forgot his message that Jesus was **living before Abram...** and he **was the Son of God** – and **he and the Father were one...** and **he was the resurrection and the source of all life...** and **death could not hold him.**

Matthew 17:22-23...Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up..."

2 Then **she ran and came to Simon Peter,** and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and **we do not know where they have laid Him.**"

2. Mary Magdalene then went to Apostles Peter and John, declaring she did not know where they had taken Jesus' body.

She assumed someone had stolen it. She did not know Pilate had sealed the tomb and put guards there, so it was impossible for someone to steal his body away. (**The other women went to the disciples much later.**)

3 Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. 4 So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. 5 And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the **linen cloths lying** there; yet he did not go in. 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there,

3. So Apostle Peter and Apostle John ran to the tomb, but Apostle John, being much younger, got there first, looked in the tomb, but did not see the Lord's body there.

Then Apostle Peter arrived and went in after Joh did. All they saw were linen cloths and the straps from his head neatly folded. The folded cloth (V7) showed this was not theft. No one had stolen the Lord's body. **No one tidies up after stealing.** **The Lord was raised from the dead!** For Mary Magdalene, seeing the empty tomb was not enough.

4. Lessons:

a. Devotion to the Lord is seen in service, not just talk!

b. If Jesus were not crucified on Friday, Mary Magdalene and the women would have come the following day to put spices on the body and would not have witnessed the resurrection! What wonderful providence of God! They were able to witness the most important event in human history!

c. Jesus had told his disciples multiple times he would be raised from the dead. (A timely recollection of God's Word is always helpful for a Christian.) But because they did not believe, they lost the blessings and stayed in a state of disappointment. Do you get the message? You too will be left disappointed if you move away from God's truth and hold your own ideas!

d. Jesus was raised from the dead for you. He laid down his life and he took it up again. He did it for you!

Mary Magdalene heard Jesus was raised from the dead

11 But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb.

1. In tears, believing others had stolen the body of the Lord Jesus, Mary Magdalene curiously stooped down and looked in the tomb...which was a new one...so no one else would have wanted to go there.

She had not done this before (the other women did)...as she had quickly run to tell the Apostles Jesus was missing.

12 And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

2. Mary Magdalene then saw two angels (one spoke), ready to report on why the body of Jesus was missing.

They also gave this report to the other women.

3. Based on the other accounts, the angels assured Mary the Lord was risen.

She had no reason to fear. No one had stolen Jesus' body. No animal had eaten the body. Jesus was alive. She would see him herself. Christ had to be crucified: a very shameful, and painful death...just as he spoke. Christ had to descend into the grave. Christ would rise again!

4. The angels told her to go with joy and tell the world Christ was raised so the spiritually dead can be raised!

5. Lessons:

a. The details of Christ's resurrection teach the truthfulness of Jesus' words he had spoken before he died. Details illustrate truth. That's how cops know if you are speaking the truth. This is what preaching is. **It is a reminder of the details of what Christ has done for you so you could trust him more.**

b. You, like Mary, must speak of the resurrection. The Gospel is nothing without the resurrection. Because he lives, you live and others can live!

1Corinthians 15:13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14 And **if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty** and your faith is also empty.

c. Don't rely on a crucifix or a bumper sticker to speak of Christ. Use your words. It is the most wonderful story in the world.

d. One of the benefits of preaching is to remind you of the words of Christ. So listen. Make notes. Talk about the sermon.

Mary Magdalene meets Jesus who was raised from the dead

14 Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus.

1. Coming out of the tomb, Mary saw Jesus but did not recognize him.

We don't know why. Maybe the coming out from the dark tomb to bright light, maybe he wasn't facing her, maybe she was weeping, maybe he was dressed differently, or maybe his nature was somewhat different.

15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, **why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?**" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

2. Jesus then asked Mary Magdalene why she was weeping and for whom she was looking.

3. Assuming Jesus was just the gardener, she supposed he had taken the Lord's body away and she offered to take his body back.

16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher).

4. Then Jesus spoke in a certain way Mary Magdalene clearly recognized his voice.

She responded in a way showing she knew who he was. She called him "teacher." She knew the voice of her teacher.

17 Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'"

5. She then tried to cling to Jesus, but he forbade her from doing that.

There are all kinds of weird speculation as to what this meant. We know Jesus wasn't afraid of being touched after the resurrection. Jesus offered Thomas to touch his side. He ate. So Jesus wasn't a phantom! More, Jesus allowed multiple people to touch his feet.

Matthew 28:9 And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice!" So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him.

The answer is simple: Mary had work to do. ***So Jesus was saying, "Don't stay with me. Don't worship now. There will be time to worship. (She was saved from much, so she loved more.) Now is the time to speak of the resurrection."*** She had seen the empty tomb, she had heard the voice of the angels, now she had met Jesus for herself. It was time to announce the resurrection so men and women could be saved.

18 Mary Magdalene came and **told the disciples that she had seen the Lord**, and that He had spoken these things to her.

6. Mary then did as she was told for the glory of the Savior and the good of the disciples (Mark confirmed it).

7. Lessons:

a. No one could stop God's redemption plan. God declared it in Eden, fulfilled it at the cross, in the grave, and on Resurrection Sunday. Jesus is alive. Because he lives you can live. Worried about your spouse dying from cancer? Worried about your children dying in an accident? Worried that you can die in a plane crash? Don't. You have a resurrection! You have eternal life. So live victoriously!

b. Believe in the resurrection. If you don't believe in the resurrection, you are pitiable and you will have to answer to the one who lived and died for you as to why you rejected it._

c. Be eager to jump out of bed every Sunday to come and meet with Jesus and sing of his resurrection!

d. Tell of the resurrection. The world needs to hear it so it can have hope.

Conclusion:

The resurrection **proved** everything Jesus said. The resurrection **guaranteed** that everyone who believes in Christ would be raised from the dead also. Mary Magdalene saw it, heard of it, and experienced it! So she had to tell!

Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. You've heard of the resurrection of Jesus! Rejoice. He rose from the dead for you. He rose so you don't have to die. He took death captive when he rose! Revelation 1:18 "I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore...John 14:19 ... Because I live, you will live also.

2. With new life, keep fighting the Devil, the world and your flesh. Live with confidence. You cannot eternally die from Covid-19. And even if you physically die, you will be raised up too! So laugh at Covid, with all its power, as its sting has been pulled! Laugh at cancer. Laugh at old age. Laugh at loneliness. They can't take away your life! **Death, Adam's gift to you, has been defeated!**

Finally: If you don't believe in the resurrection but claim to be a Christian, you are pitiable! The resurrection saves you from hell. Jesus is alive, though he died as punishment for the sins of the world. If you want him to take away your sins and give you new life, ask and you will receive. He will do a work in your heart that will amaze you.