

"The Empty Tomb"
John 20:1-18
Sunday Morning Services March 31, 2024

John 20:11-18

Matthew 28:6 "He is not here, for He has risen."

**The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is a Historical Fact, an event in which Christianity is built, and rests upon this Gospel Message:
1 Corinthians 15:17**

**Jesus throughout His ministry pointed to His own resurrection when asked for some sign to prove His Messiahship – Matthew 12:38-40;
John 2:18-22.**

Resurrection Proves His Deity! Romans 1:4

Practical Importance Of The Resurrection Is That Of Changed Lives:

Mary is the very **first witness** and the very **first proclaimer of the resurrection!** (Proof that the Scriptures are Divine, not authored of man.)

Thought Of Our Passage: "The Church Did Not Create The Resurrection, The Resurrection Created The Church."

1. Verses 1-10 Jesus' Power Over Death:

2. Verses 11-18 The Resurrected Lord:

1. Verses 1-10 Jesus' Power Over Death:

John 20:1 Now – Context, Jesus after death on a cross was laid in a nearby tomb next to Golgotha (Calvary) on Friday, **John 19:41-42**

first day of the week This is now Sunday morning. Because of the Resurrection

Verses 1-2 Mary Visits The Tomb: Mary Magdalene She was a woman that Jesus had cast out seven demons, became a devoted disciple
Luke 8:2

came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, Mark 16:2

and saw the stone already taken away from the tomb. This stone was about 1 ½ -2 tons, 4-6' diameter, and 1' thick (weight of a mid-size car).

John 20:2 So she ran and came to Simon Peter name **Simon** was given to him by his parents. Jesus renamed him **Peter** – his spiritual name, "Rock"

Verses 3-10 Peter & John Visit The Tomb: John 20:3-4

Verses 5-8 The Mystery Of The Grave Clothes: John 20:5 John is more restrained, and reflective, and in awe; he does not enter, a holy moment!

John 20:6 Peter is different than John and goes right in. **Peter is impulsive.**

These disciples did not expect the resurrection to take place.

John 20:7 but rolled up in a place by itself. All the linen wrappings were lying in the place where the body of Jesus had been laying. Like an empty eggshell that is lying in its place. *Explanation: Jesus literally came through the material.* Later Jesus would walk through walls.

John 20:19, 26

(This Resurrection is not merely spiritual but literal and physical)

John 20:8 So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, Peter's boldness led John to follow Peter into the tomb!

John Believed By Indirect Evidence: he saw Greek "to see with understanding" and believed. "to be persuaded of," "to place confidence in, to trust, reliance upon" **John was the first disciple to believe in a living Saviour!**

Verses 9-10 The Mystery Of Unbelief: John 20:9 For as yet they did not understand the Scripture,

Matthew 16:21; Mark 9:9; Luke 18:32-34

Psalm 119:18 Open my eyes,

John 20:10 How confused they must have been.

2. Verses 11-18 The Resurrected Lord:

John 20:11 But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; Only John records this encounter of Mary with Jesus. **weeping;** Literally "sobbing convulsively"

Verses 11-13 Angels In The Tomb: and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb; A scene of despair and confusion.

The hope of the resurrection. **1 Thessalonians 4:13**

John 20:12 and she saw two angels no body of Jesus, but now two angels.

John 20:13 And they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?"
This is one of those gentle rebukes sent by God.

Tears at the empty tomb of Jesus Christ is the most inappropriate place to cry!

"Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

Verses 14-15 Mary's Mistake: John 20:14 Here is a woman that is so gripped with grief that she now misses the Lord Jesus. **and did not know that it was Jesus.**

John 20:15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" Jesus now rebukes Mary.

The root problem is that Mary and the disciples did not hold a high enough view of Jesus!

Supposing Him to be the gardener, She was not expecting Him, and Jesus was glorified. **Mark 16:12**

We Can Miss Jesus Because We Don't Expect Him.

tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away." (Great Love, but lacking great faith)

Verses 16-18 Jesus Revealed: John 20:16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!"
He calls her name, As only God could.

Mary Believed By Direct Evidence: She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher or My Master).
John 10:16

John 20:17

The Command Of Jesus, Stop Clinging To Me: Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, "stop holding me" Why did Jesus say this?
2 Corinthians 5:16; Matthew 28:9

for I have not yet ascended to the Father; That Jesus was going to the Father. He was not leaving permanently. This would not be His only appearance.

The Command Of Jesus, Go Tell My Brethren: but go to My brethren, and say to them,

Through redemption of the cross, a new relationship has been birthed. Romans 8:15-16; Hebrews 2:11

The Coming Ascension Of Jesus: 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'"

At the ascension of Jesus He said, **Acts 1:8**

Mary is the first witness of the resurrected Lord, and the first ambassador of the Risen Savior!

John 20:18 Mary Magdalene came, announcing – *"kept on announcing"*

"I have seen the Lord," and that He had said these things to her. Faithful messenger of Jesus Christ. **Mark 16:9-11**

Luke 24:10-11

Application:

- 1. The Resurrection Is An Historical Fact:** OT And NT Predictions, Then Eyewitness Accounts Of The Risen Lord.
- 2. The Resurrection Is Personal And Life Changing:** John Presents The Facts And Appearances That Were Life Changing. Have Our Own Lives Been Changed Through An Encounter By The Truth Of The Resurrection?
- 3. The Resurrection Message Is The Gospel Message For All Mankind.** Mary said, "I Have Seen The Lord." This Naturally Will Lead To, "Go And Make Disciples Of All The Nations."