

# Easter Sunday

## “I Have Seen the Lord!”

### John 20:1-18

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Mary Magdalene’s world was shattered when Jesus died! She is filled with sorrow and grief when she discovers that the stone blocking the tomb has been moved, and the body of Jesus isn’t there. The only logical conclusion that she could draw was that grave robbers stole the body. The thought of resurrection was absent from her mind. When she discovered that Jesus rose from the dead, her grief turned into joy as she entered into a new relationship with her Lord.

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#### #1. MARY MAGDALENE UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

- A. Mary was an early disciple of Christ
- B. Mary had 7 demons cast out of her, (Mk 16:9)
- C. Mary traveled with Jesus, (Luke 8:1-3)
- D. Mary helped support Jesus, (Luke 8:1-3)
- E. Mary’s name is first on many lists
- F. Mary was at the cross, (John 19:25)
- G. Mary was the first to see Jesus risen, (John 20:16)
- H. Mary was commissioned as the first evangelist, (John 20:17)

#### #2. MARY, PETER & JOHN EXAMINE THE EMPTY TOMB, vv. 1-9

- A. She thought the body was stolen by grave robbers, v. 2
- B. Peter & John sprint to the tomb, vv. 2-3
- C. They evaluate the evidence:
  - 1. The strips of linen, vv. 6-7
  - 2. The burial cloth is separate from the linen, v. 7
  - 3. The burial cloth is folded neatly by itself, v. 7
  - 4. There were elite Roman guards, v. 7
  - 5. The tomb was sealed, (Mat 27:63-66)

#### THE CONCLUSIONS OF MARY, PETER, AND JOHN

- ♣ Mary thought grave robbers took the body, v. 2,
- ♣ Peter didn’t get it: wondered what happened, (Luke 24:12)
- ♣ John came to faith: “He saw and believed”, v. 8
- ♣ They all didn’t understand the Scriptures, v. 9

#### #3. MARY IS GRIEVING THE LOSS OF JESUS – THE THOUGHT OF RESURRECTION IS ABSENT FROM HER MIND, vv. 11-16

- A. Mary is a train-wreck, v. 11
- B. The angels ask “why are you crying”, vv. 12-13
- C. They’ve taken away my Lord, v. 13
- D. She thought Jesus was the gardener, vv. 14-15
- E. Jesus asks, “Why are you crying”, v. 15
- F. Jesus asks, “Who are you looking for”, v. 15
- G. Resurrection never entered her mind, v. 15
- H. She recognized His voice, v. 16, (Jn 10:3-4)

#### #4. MARY MUST TRANSITION TO A NEW RELATIONSHIP WITH THE RISEN LORD JESUS, vv. 17-18

- A. Mary fell at Jesus’ feet & grabbed Him, v. 17
- B. Jesus told her not to hold onto me, v. 17
- C. Jesus hadn’t ascended to the Father, v. 17
- D. Jesus would send the Spirit, (John 16:7)
- E. Jesus commissioned her, v. 17
- F. Jesus defined the new relationship, v. 17

#### #5. MARY LIVES ON MISSION FOR THE RISEN LORD JESUS, v. 18

- A. Mary is commissioned as an evangelist
  - B. Mary is an unlikely witness for 1<sup>st</sup> C. culture
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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. Why is the resurrection the heart of Christianity?
  - #2. Discuss Mary's life before she met Jesus, and after she met Jesus.
  - #3. Discuss why it seems unlikely that grave robbers stole the body of Jesus.
  - #4. Discuss why the "swoon theory" seems nearly impossible.
  - #5. Discuss why the "conspiracy theory" that the disciples stole the body and made up the story of the resurrection (Matt 28:11-15), seems unlikely.
  - #6. Each of the disciples mentioned in John chapter 20, came to faith in the risen Jesus in different ways (see below). What conclusions can you make about the amount of evidence required for each to come to faith in the risen Jesus.
    - A. John saw and believed, v. 8
    - B. Mary recognized Jesus' voice and believed, v. 16
    - C. The disciples saw his hands & side then believed, vv. 19-20
    - D. Thomas had to touch Jesus and believed, vv. 25 & 27
  - #7. After Jesus rose from the dead a transition period began. Discuss how it must have been for the disciples to go from having Jesus with them in the flesh, to ascending to heaven and sending the Holy Spirit (John 16:7).
  - #8. Why is the resurrection the basis of our hope? (1 Peter 1:3-5)
  - #9. What is your takeaway from this teaching?
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HILLCREST CHURCH IS OPEN!

### EASTER SUNDAY EGG HUNT

After today's service the children can meet at the front door and the egg hunt will begin.

### CHILDREN'S WORKERS

We need help in the children's ministry. If you are willing to help out contact Melissa.

### MEDIA HELP

You will be trained to help in broadcasting the service on zoom and working with the sound system. See Johanna or DJ if interested.

### FOLLOWING COVID GUIDELINES

- Wear a mask
- Social distance
- No food or beverages will be served
- Hand sanitizers are available in the building
- If you have any symptoms please stay home
- Let common sense prevail