

**“The Empty Tomb and the Risen Christ!”**  
**John 20:1-18**

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**1. The Empty Tomb: Two Witnesses and What They Saw** **20:1-10**

**(1) Informed by Mary Magdalene** *“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.”*

- Her alarm

- Her supposition: That someone had taken the Lord’s body, desecrating the burial place.

- Her report to Peter and John *“They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him!”*

**(2) Peter and John** *“Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together...”*

-1- They witness of two!

-2- What they witness

- The accoutrements of burial – but not in disarray!
  - the linen cloths
  - the face cloth folded in a place by itself

- The tomb was rather like a *living* person or “guest” would have left it!

-3- The Stirrings of Faith *“he saw and believed”*

- Not a full-orbed faith as of yet cf. v. 9
- But understanding that it was the hand of Another that had been at work!

**2. The Risen Christ! He appears to Mary Magdalene** **20:11-18**

**(1) The Angelic Presence** *“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.”*

- An “honor guard!”

- Their question *“Woman, why are you weeping?”*

**(2) Her Encounter with Jesus** *“she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know it was Jesus.”*

**-1- Mary does not recognize the Lord Why?**

- She certainly did not expect to see Him
- So overcome with grief and perplexity?
- *But*, His appearance was in some measure different! cf. v. 17; Lk. 24 (road to Emmaus)

Jesus has begun to enter into His glory  
A *marvelous transition* is underway, as He is in process of ascending to the Father.

**-2- Jesus reveals Himself to Mary**

- When He addresses her by name, she immediately knows that it is Him!
- She clings to Him!

**-3- Jesus’ Gentle Admonition and Directive** *“Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father...”*

- Everything has changed – and *wonderfully* so!

**- The Lord’s command:** *“...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.’ ”*

His triumph to be filled out in glorification!  
A word of strong assurance!

**Further Application:**