

Forgiveness from an Empty Tomb

Mary ran with terrible news: Jesus' body is gone!

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said,

"They have taken the Lord out of the tomb,
and we don't know where they have put him!"

Alarmed, Peter & John ran to look only to find an empty tomb

So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head.

The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen.

Peter went in but didn't understand; John saw and believed

Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)

Then the disciples went back to their homes.

But Mary was not diverted from her search, even by angels

But Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"

"They have taken my Lord away," she said,
"and I don't know where they have put him."

She was so focused she mistook the risen Jesus as a gardener

At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

"Woman," he said, "why are you crying?

Who is it you are looking for?"

Thinking he was the gardener, she said,

"Sir, if you have carried him away,
tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

But hearing him say her name opened her eyes: Jesus Alive!

Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).

Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet returned to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news:

"I have seen the Lord!"

And she told them that he had said these things to her.



Thinking he was the gardener, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him."

Jn.19:19 & 20b



What can we learn from Mary Magdalene?

When we are without hope, believe anyway (Jesus is near)
For fullness of life, focus on him and his teaching
Remember, it's not "just me and Jesus." We serve him.

Jesus' resurrection is also our resurrection

"He became like us so we could become like him"
If we believe in him we receive forgiveness and eternal life
And we have his promise of our own resurrection with him

Everyone who believes in Jesus receives forgiveness
of sins through his name." Peter in Acts 10:43

I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever lives by
believing in me will never die. Jesus in John 11:25

The Commands of Jesus

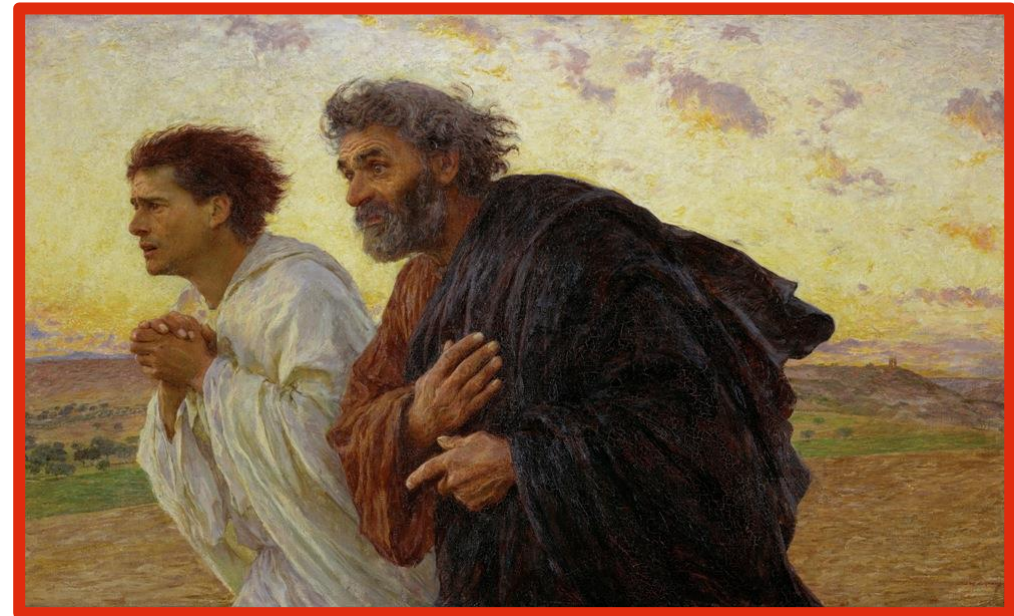
Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul
and mind. And love your neighbor as yourself.

Portions of Matthew 22:37-38



Northwood Alliance Church
Blaine, Washington
Resurrection Sunday
April 21, 2019

Forgiveness from an Empty Tomb



Mary came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, and said,
"They have taken the Lord out of the tomb,
and we don't know where they have put him!"

So Peter and the other disciple started running for the tomb.

From John 20:2-3

ART WORK CREDITS:

- Page 1 Painting: *Peter and John Running to the Tomb* by Eugene Bernand, 1898
- Page 3 Stained Glass: *Noli me Tangere* by Edward Burne-Jones, 1874 (Art&Theology)
- Page 4 Stained Glass: Detail of *The Resurrection*, Church of the Resurrection, Houston