

JOHN: THE WORD: GRACE AND TRUTH

John 20:1-30

- ***The Tomb, Tears, and the Breath of God***

20 Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone already taken away from the tomb. ² So 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." ³ So Peter and the other disciple went forth, and they were going to the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first; ⁵ and stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying there; but he did not go in. ⁶ And so Simon Peter also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed. ⁹ For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. ¹⁰ So the disciples went away again to their own homes. John 20:1-10 NASB

- ***Mary Magdalene comes very early to Jesus' tomb and the stone has been moved and the tomb is open. (v1)***
 - ***This is a huge weighty stone set in a groove that was cut into the entrance, plastered in place, and sealed by wax or another substance.***
 - ***Moving the stone was no small task.***
- ***Mary immediately runs to find Peter and John and tells them that someone has stolen the body of Jesus.***
- ***John and Peter arrive at the tomb, they entered and saw what was there and who was not there.***
- ***John says that he saw and he believed.***

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- ..." he saw and was convinced." (v8 Weymouth)
- ***They still didn't understand the issue of the resurrection...but believed that Jesus had returned to the Father.***
- ***What a morning! A startled Mary Magdalene, a huge stone moved, an empty tomb and all this before breakfast!***
- ***So, what did they do? They went home...amazing!***

¹¹ But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying. ¹³ And 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." ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means, Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and that He had said these things to her. John 20:11-18 NASB

- ***Mary is crying at the entrance to the tomb and she sees two angels seated where Jesus' body had been lying.***
 - ***They ask her why she is weeping?? No explanation for their presence or compassion for her sorrow...just that question..." why are you weeping?"***

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- ***She explains to the angels that her weeping is due to someone moving her Lord's body, but she doesn't know where they have taken Him.***
- ***Unbeknown to Mary, Jesus speaks to her, asking her two questions... "Woman, why are you weeping?" and "Whom are you seeking?"***
- ***She assumes that he is the gardener and tells him to let her know where Jesus' body has been moved and she will go and get it.***
- ***Then He speaks to her personally...He simply speaks her name..."Mary"...***
- ***She instantly recognizes Him and responds by saying 'Rabboni' (meaning teacher or master). (v16)***
- ***So, what makes you cry? What trouble, what difficulty, what unexplained issue makes you cry?***

"Good men weep easily," says the Greek poet; and the better any are, the more inclined to weeping, especially under affliction. As you may see in David, whose tears, instead of gems, were the ornaments of his bed; in Jonathan, Job, Ezra, Daniel, etc. "How," says one, "shall God wipe away my tears in heaven if I shed none on earth? And how shall I reap in joy if I sow not in tears? I was born with tears, and I shall die with tears; and why then should I live without them in this valley of tears?" Thomas Brooks

- ***What brings you to tears? Jesus sees and He cares. The angels didn't cause her tears to stop but He did. He healed her hopelessness and her confusion.***
 - ***She embraces Him but He tells her not to cling to Him...one version of v17 says..."don't be detaining Me...I have not yet ascended to My Father and Your Father and My God and your God."***

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- ***He is beginning to prepare her for the 'new normal'...not the same normal she as known. A 'new normal' connected to eternal life, purpose, power, and peace.***

For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. ¹⁶ Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him in this way no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 2 Corinthians 5:14-17 NASB

- ***This new normal has Jesus reigning from the throne next to the Father.***
 - ***It has Jesus in Heaven interceding for us and making a place for us there.***
 - ***This new normal includes us living in Jesus there and Him living in us here.***
 - ***A whole new dimension of relationship and one-ness is about to become a reality for believers.***
- ***Mary does as Jesus instructed her (v12) and she goes to the disciples to tell them what has happened. (v18)***

¹⁹ So when it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the

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sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained.”²⁴ But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.²⁵ So the other disciples were saying to him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”²⁶ After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, “Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing.”²⁸ Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed.”³⁰ Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;³¹ but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. John 20:19-31 NASB

- **The disciples are cloistered and hiding for fear of the Jews (v19), and Jesus comes into their midst...saying “Peace be with you.”**
 - **He shows them His hands and His side, and they rejoice over seeing Him.**
 - **Jesus repeats His greeting of ‘peace’ and then ‘commissions’ them...the Father sent Jesus here and now Jesus is ‘sending’ them. (v21)**
 - **He didn’t rebuke them or admonish them for not being around for the difficult times on Friday...He just blessed them with ‘peace’.**
 - **A moment that Jesus had been waiting for...He breathed on them and says, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” (v22) (see Genesis 2:7)**
 - **This was like blowing into a musical instrument...a strong breath!**

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- **...“If you get forgiveness for peoples sins, they are forgiven them, if you let peoples’ sins fasten upon them, they will remain fastened on them.” V21 Williams**
- **When we share the gospel and people believe then, their sins get dealt with. If they don’t ‘hear’ and don’t believe, then they are still in their sin.**
- **Thomas ‘misses’ the meeting...yikes!! (v24-29)**
 - **The others testify to him, but he says, “I won’t believe until I see Him and know for myself...”**
 - **Thomas was a Missourian, show me!**
 - **Jesus comes to them again and gives Thomas a personal invitation to see and touch.**
 - **Thomas believes saying...my Lord and my God after Jesus tells him “Stop becoming an unbeliever...” (v27)**

Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him. I Corinthians 8:6 NASB

Therefore, let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified.” Acts 2:36 NASB

- **Jesus “blesses” people who have not seen Me and yet believe. (John 20:29)**
- **...“His disciples saw Jesus do many other miracles that were not written in this book.” V30 Beck (see John 21:25)**
- **John included the signs/wonders we find in His Gospel so we can believe that Jesus is the Christ and have life in His name. (v31)**
- **Look at John 20:29 – isn’t that everyone? John says he saw and touched and heard all these things and he provides the truth of it all so we can believe.**

³⁰Jesus went on to do many more miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not even included in this book. ³¹But all that is

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recorded here is so that you will fully believe that Jesus is the Anointed One, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you will experience eternal life by the power of his name! John 20:30-31 TPT