

Lesson 4

"GREATER THINGS"

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

John 20:1 - 31

John 20 is a focus upon the resurrection of Jesus and subsequent appearances. Mary Magdalene discovered the empty tomb. Jesus then appeared to Mary Magdalene and the disciples. The narrative emphasizes the importance of believing in Jesus even without seeing Him. The other Gospel accounts provide more details.

I. The Risen Jesus (John 20:1-10)

- A. "The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre" of Jesus and found it empty (verse 1).
 - 1. She ran and told Peter and "the other disciple, whom Jesus loved" (verse 2).
 - a. This is John's reference to himself.
 - 2. Peter and John ran to the sepulchre (verse 3).
 - a. John outran Peter and arrived first at the sepulchre (verse 4).
 - 3. They saw the burial clothes but not Jesus (verses 5 - 7).
- B. John understood the significance of the empty sepulchre (verse 8).
 - 1. Others "knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead," but John did (verse 9).
 - a. The disciples went back home (verse 10).



II. The Risen Jesus and Mary Magdalene (John 20:11-18)

- A. Mary Magdalene remained outside of the sepulchre weeping, and looked into the sepulchre (verse 11).
 - 1. Mary saw two angels (verse 12).
 - 2. The angels asked her, "Why weepest thou?" (verse 13).
 - a. Mary replied, "They have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him."
 - 3. Mary turned and saw Jesus, but did not know it was Him (verse 14), supposing He was the gardener (verse 15). Jesus personally addressed her; at which time she recognized Him (verse 16).

4. Jesus commissioned Mary to tell the disciples about His resurrection ministry (verse 17), which she did (verse 18). His ministry at this time was to present His own blood in the Most Holy Place in Heaven.

III. The Risen Jesus and the Disciples (John 20:19-23)

- A. That same Sunday evening, the disciples were assembled in a locked room, "**for fear of the Jews,**" when Jesus suddenly appeared to them, and said, "**Peace be unto you**" (verse 19). He was no enemy.
 1. Jesus exhibited His hands and side, presumably to reveal crucifixion scars. "**Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord**" (verse 20).
- B. Jesus commissioned the disciples to go preach the gospel (verse 21).
 1. Also conferred with this commission was the presence and power of the Holy Spirit (verse 22).
 2. The "**sins ye remit**" is to be understood only in a doctrinal, or ministerial way, by the preaching of the gospel, to explain how Jesus forgives the sins of all who believe in Christ (verse 23).

IV. The Risen Jesus and Doubting Thomas (John 20:24-29)

- A. "**But Thomas . . . was not with them when Jesus came**" (verse 24). I am sure he had a good excuse.
 1. The other disciples told him, "**We have seen the Lord**" (verse 25).
 2. Thomas said, "**I will not believe**" until I see for myself.
- B. Eight days later, Jesus appeared again. This time, Thomas was there (verse 26).
 1. Seeing, Thomas believed, and said, "**My Lord and my God**" (verses 27, 28).
 2. Jesus told him, "**Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed**" (verse 29).

V. The Risen Jesus and the Gospel (John 20:30, 31)

- A. "**And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book**" (verse 30).
 1. "**And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen**" (John 21:25).
- B. "**But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name**" (verse 31). Jesus is the only way to eternal life!

***TRUST JESUS
TODAY!***