

# Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

March 30, 2022

John 20: 1 - 9

The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. **2** Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. **3** Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. **4** So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. **5** And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. **6** Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, **7** And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. **8** Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. **9** For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.

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## Verse 1

*The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.*

\*To recap from last week: We determined that the first day of the week would be Sunday. Mary Magdalene (and others we know from other Gospels) were going to the tomb to complete the care of the body of Jesus from Friday. No work could be done on Saturday, the Sabbath Day.

## Verse 2

*Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.*

\* So here we have Mary Magdalene running away from the garden and meets up with Peter and John (the Beloved) and she tells them her version of what happened. She concluded seeing the stone rolled away that the body was taken or stolen.

## Verses 3, 4 and 5

*Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. 5 And he stooping down, and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in.*

\*John runs faster than Peter and gets there first. Then John only looks into the tomb from the edge/ opening to see the cloths lying there. Jesus was not there but the cloths were. So why would they (whoever stole the body) leave the cloths in the tomb?

\*Recalling last week - it was mentioned that the Roman guards (almost like a special forces unit) fainted when the angel of the Lord appeared. Later on we will learn that these guards will get paid to say that Jesus' body was stolen.

## Verse 6 and 7

*Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself.*

\*Now Peter goes rushing in, demonstrating his impulsive behavior once again. He acts first and then thinks about it later. He finds the cloths as well which were evidence of the resurrection. Here now we have two first person accounts of what was in the tomb.

\*The face cloth, or head linen, was set aside from the other cloths. This is significant because it was a Jewish custom to set aside your napkin meaning you were coming back to the table. The same word, face cloth, was used in John 11:44 when Jesus was referring to Lazarus coming out of his tomb. Jesus said, "Loose him, let him go." Lazarus could not resurrect himself. He had been embalmed. Now when Jesus arose, He did it himself. He had the power to do that and He was not embalmed yet. Another theory/explanation for why the face cloth was separated from the others is that it was not needed any more because Jesus' mission was finished.

### **Verse 8**

*Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.*

\*John went in second. When he saw the grave clothes he believed what Mary Magdalene had reported...

### **Verse 9**

*For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.*

\*John and Peter were not recalling or did not know the Scriptures that tell about the Messiah's resurrection. Nor were they remembering what Jesus had explained to them just days ago.

\*If you are not taught the Scriptures then you will not know the Scriptures.

Summing up tonight's discussion:

\*John and Peter's unbelief might astound us but remember that they were not filled with the Holy Spirit as yet so these recent events would be very confusing to them. This once in a lifetime (once in all of history!) event was

not easy to comprehend because they really had no frame of reference to go by. No one else had ever been resurrected except Lazarus.

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Go in peace, go in joy, go in love!

May the Lord watch between me and thee  
While we are absent one from the other.

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