

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

April 6, 2022

God is good, all the time; all the time, God is good!

John 20:10 - 19

10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home. **11** But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre, **12** And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. **13** And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him. **14** And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. **15** Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. **16** Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. **17** Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God. **18** Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her. **19** Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

Verse 10

Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

*This is where we left off last week: Peter and John had peeked or gone into the tomb and when they saw nothing but the grave clothes, they decided to go back home.

Verse 11

But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre,

*Mary Magdalene experienced something that Peter and John did not because she stuck around. Peter and John had left the scene to go back home.

*Good things happen to people who stick around. Much like Sunday School - when you stick around for Sunday School and get your children into Sunday School, good things happen like learning the Scriptures!

Verse 12

And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

*Mary now sees 2 angels in the tomb. They could have been worshiping the Risen Christ.

Verse 13

And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him.

*The angels ask Mary why she is crying. They were happy, excited and she's weeping. She tells them why - because she cannot find the body of her Lord, Jesus.

Verse 14

And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus.

*This was not the Jesus Mary had known just days ago. She did not recognize Him as He looked now. Jesus had changed in appearance; He was not in His earthly form anymore.

*Many people will meet a Jesus they didn't know - They remember Him as a little baby or riding meekly on a donkey, mild as a lamb. But now He is a Risen Savior, a King, the Lion of Judah!

Verse 15

Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

*This is a short conversation between Mary and someone she thought was the gardener.

Verse 16

Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

*As soon as Jesus said her name, she recognized Him. The light came on! When Jesus says your name, His identity cannot be denied. You will know it is Jesus.

Verse 17

Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.

*See notes below **Verse 19** on the form of Jesus at this moment to explain His admonition to Mary to not touch Him.

Verse 18

Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

*Jesus had told Mary in verse 17 to go tell the other disciples what she had seen.

* In other Gospel accounts, the other disciples thought Mary was making up this story. (Luke 24:11)

Verse 19

Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.

*So now it is Sunday evening and the disciples are gathered in a room behind closed (locked?) doors to hide from the Jews and who shows up but Jesus! Was this still a spirit form or a bodily form?

***Notes from one theologian's ideas on the difference between verses 17 and 19 and Matthew 28:8 and 9**

8 And [the women in this account who had gone to the tomb] departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word. 9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

This theologian believes there are 3 views held for this contradiction:

1. Jesus was acting as the High Priest by the fact that He had accomplished the sacrifice, He was on His way to present the sacred blood in heaven.
2. Mary was gently rebuked by Christ when He commanded her, "Touch me not" or stop clinging to me. Jesus was showing her that she must not seek to hold Him to the earth but, rather, become His messenger of new joy.
3. He merely meant: Do not detain me now, I am not yet ascended (He was just coming out of hell where had descended to when He died). You (Mary) will see me again. Run along and tell my brothers about what you have seen.

*In the short time between verses 8 and 9 in Matthew 28, Jesus has ascended to the Father and came back to meet up with them.

*Our personal hope in the resurrection is that what happened to Jesus will happen to us: **1 Corinthians 15:48 - 58** tells what happens to us when we die. We have an earthly body (like Jesus had) and we will have a heavenly body (like Jesus has).

(These verses are from the NLT)

***48** Earthly people are like the earthly man, and heavenly people are like the heavenly man. **49** Just as we are now like the earthly man, we will someday be like the heavenly man. **50** What I am saying, dear brothers and sisters, is that our physical bodies cannot inherit the Kingdom of God. These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever.*

***51** But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! **52** It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. **53** For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies.*

***54** Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled:*

*“Death is swallowed up in victory. **55** O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?”*

***56** For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. **57** But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

***58** So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.*

*Just think about what God can do with us in the ‘twinkling of an eye’, as in verse 52 - in a moment. This is the same thing God did for Jesus when He came out of the tomb!

*The corruptible (earthly) is covered (put on) by the incorruptible (heavenly). The mortal (earthly) is covered (put on) by the immortal (heavenly).

Pastor Tom's last point to us tonight :

Don't put God in a box. Jesus is bigger than the box.

Pray expecting a surprise from God!

As we discussed this mysterious transformation of Jesus from an earthly human being (yet fully God as well) into an immortal being able to become present inside a locked room, we went to the altar to pray at 7:14 PM...expecting...
