



**Easter Sunday:
Are You Looking? Are You Listening?**

John 20:1-18 (ESV)

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Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”

³ So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴ Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in.

John 20:1-18 (ESV)

- ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷ and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself.
- ⁸ Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead.
- ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to their homes.

John 20:1-18 (ESV)

- ¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept, she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”
- ¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she 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.”

John 20:1-18 (ESV)

- ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher).
- ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”
- ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord” —and that he had said these things to her.

Introduction:

Our greatest
strengths are our
greatest weaknesses

Gordon Livingston

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I. Peter and John

A. The Impetuous Seeker: Peter (John 20:6)

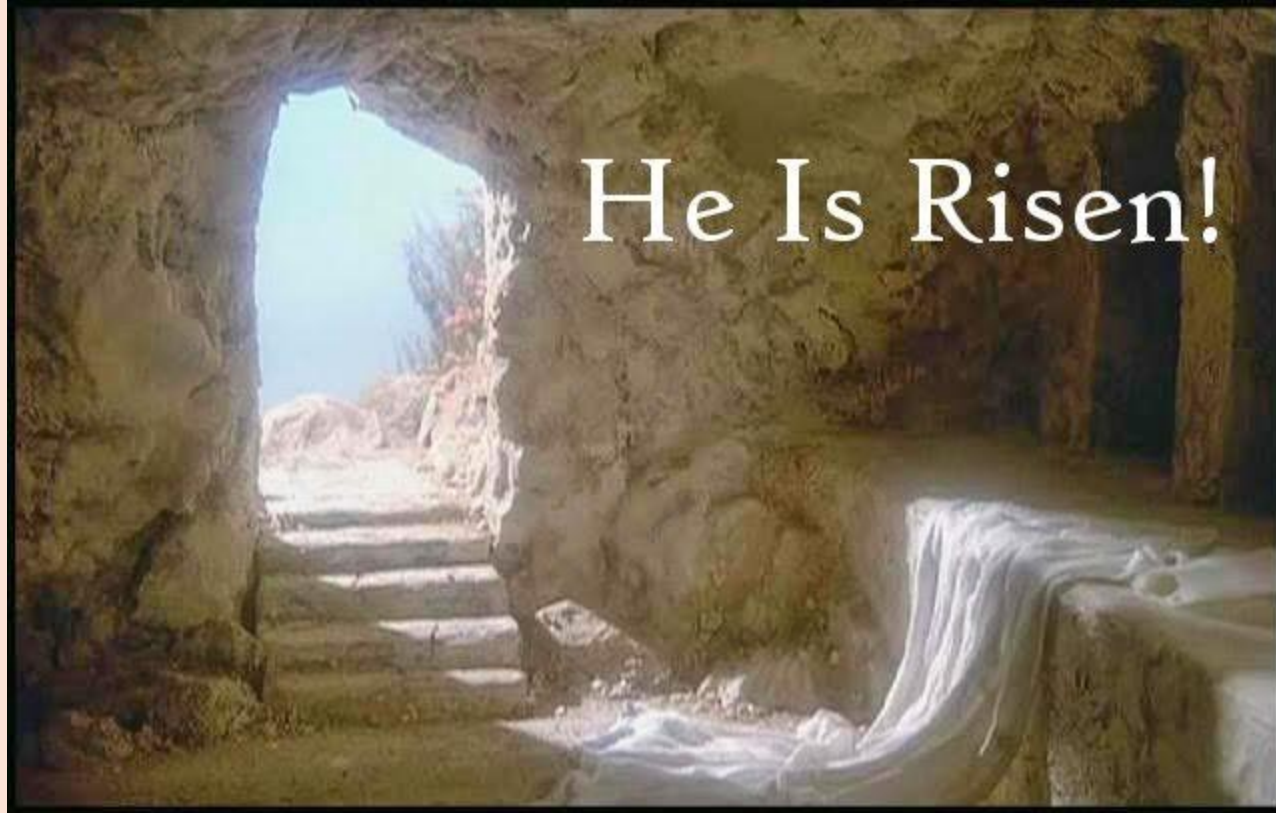
B. The Cautious Seeker: John (John 20:4-5, 8)

C. Spiritual Understanding:

New Insights on Previous Experiences (John 20:9)

“From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.” (Matthew 16:21)

He Is Risen!



II. Mary

A. Preliminary: Who is Mary Magdalene?

“Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, ²and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out” (Luke 8:2).

B. Mary’s Loyalty/Preconceptions (John 20:1-2, 11-13)

C. Mary’s Failure to “Re-Cognize” (John 20:14-15)

“cognizant”: *“Having knowledge or being aware of”*



III. Jesus

A. Jesus Jolts Us: He Calls Us by Name (John 20:16)

B. Jesus Provides a New Way of Understanding Who He Is (John 20:17a)

“I think it’s more likely that it was a warning to Mary that the new relationship with him was not going to be like the old one” (N.T. Wright).

C. Spiritual Understanding:

New Insights from New Experiences (John 20:16b, 18)

- “Qui cognoscit Deum, non cognoscit” (Latin): “*Who knows God, does not know*”
- “walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8b)



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Takeaways

A. Are you Open to Re-Cognizing Jesus

“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.”

(Proverbs 3:5)

B. How is Jesus “More” than You Knew?

“Such things have been revealed to me that all that I have written seems to me as so much straw” (Thomas Aquinas, 1273 A.D.)

C. How Can You Share what You Learn Again/Anew?

“But it was to us that God revealed these things by his Spirit. For his Spirit searches out everything and shows us God’s deep secrets. . . When we tell you these things, we do not use words that come from human wisdom. Instead, we speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit’s words to explain spiritual truths.” (1 Corinthians 2: 10, 13)

A silhouette of two hands holding a glowing cross against a sunset background. The hands are positioned in the center-right of the frame, with the fingers slightly curled. The cross is a simple, bright white symbol that glows with a soft, golden light, creating a lens flare effect. The background is a warm, golden sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon. The sky is filled with soft, golden clouds, and the water reflects the light of the setting sun. In the top left corner, there is a small, solid orange horizontal bar.

Let Us Pray