



- There is less written about Mary Magdalene in the Bible than there are myths about her.



“proclaiming and bringing the  
good news of the kingdom of God”  
Luke 8:1-3

- Mary a companion of Jesus (one of many)
- Luke 8:1-3 (ESV) 1 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, 2 and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, 3 and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod’s household manager, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.




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- from whom seven demons had gone out
- no account of how or when this happened
- Jesus had done this
  - Mark 16:9 Now when he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons.
- Demon possession was bad:
  - insane, strong, blind, seizures, mute, sickness, self mutilating.
  - Demons torment those they inhabited





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- Since Jesus cast out her demons, her devotion to Jesus is easy to understand
  - John 8:12 (ESV) 12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”
  - Colossians 1:13-14 (ESV) 13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.



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- Mark 15:41 When he was in Galilee, they followed him and **ministered** to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.



- Teaching the good news is difficult and hard work
  - Finances are necessary
  - But can also be distracting.
  - So these women did what was helpful and necessary to make it possible for Jesus to focus on his purpose.
    - Too often we don't even come close to thinking this way about the work of teaching the gospel.



- We expect those who teach to do it while they worry about taking care of their family, financial issues, and other aspects of life.
- What a blessing for Jesus and the disciples to have these women with them to care for them in so many ways.
- Do you value the proclaiming of the kingdom like Mary?





- Matthew 27:55-56 (ESV) 55 There were also many women there, looking on **from a distance**, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him, 56 among whom were Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.
- Mark 15:40-41 (ESV) 40 There were also women **looking on from a distance**, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. 41 When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.
- John 19:24-27 (ESV) So the soldiers did these things, 25 but **standing by the cross** of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. 26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" 27 Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.



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- How difficult it must have been for her to watch Jesus dying on the cross, suffering, hatred.
- The only disciple we know was there was John.





- Mark 15:46-47 (ESV) 46 And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. 47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses **saw where he was laid.**
- Matthew 27:59-61 (ESV) 59 And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud 60 and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. 61 Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, **sitting opposite the tomb.**



## At the tomb



- Focus text will be from John 20:1-2; 11-18
- Generally from the texts
  - Women were the first to the tomb of Jesus
  - They were the first to hear the announcement of Jesus' resurrection
  - First to deliver Jesus' message to "my brothers"



- Rabboni — My Teacher

- (CWSB Dictionary) master. The highest title of honors attributed, usually to the president of the Jewish Sanhedrin if he was a descendant of the school of Hillel. It means my great master and was addressed to Christ by blind Bartimaeus and Mary Magdalene (Mark 10:51; John 20:16).
- (NET Bible Notes - Full Notes) 20:16 c sn The Aramaic Rabboni means "my teacher" (a title of respect).



- How do you think of Jesus?
  - Lord
    - King of Kings
    - Creator, God, Almighty
    - Lawgiver, covenant
  - Savior, Redeemer
    - Mediator
  - Teacher — My teacher
    - Honor and reverence
    - Dear, best, loved



- Why does it matter that I see Jesus this way?
  - It can change my relationship with him.
  - Sometimes our thoughts about Jesus can be that he is too far removed.
    - He's too great, too holy, too righteous.
    - I don't have the right to approach him.
    - Sometimes we are so focused on one aspect that we miss very important aspects we can enjoy with Jesus.





- John 15:15 (ESV) 15 No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.
- Matthew 28:10: 10 Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.”



- There's always a tension between honor and familiarity
  - Generally we will tend toward awe, and honor, and respect
    - Understandable: judge, mediator , king
    - We often think of him in roles that are associated with formal things: law, court, king, throne
  - So how do we move toward a more intimate, special relationship with Jesus?



- Mary gives us at least one direction: Devotion
  - Gratitude for freedom from darkness, oppression and sin
  - Following Jesus daily, a part of my life
    - not as an obligation, but a choice
    - helping, aiding, being a part of a great work
  - Companion, friend, brother.



- 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.’”
- My previous point is the opposite of what Jesus now says to Mary ... so that's odd.





- Jesus seems to have allowed the women to touch him and worship him.
  - Matthew 28:9 (ESV) 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.
- Disciples
  - Luke 24:39 (ESV) 39 See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”



- Thomas
  - John 20:27-28 (ESV) 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” 28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”
- So it would seem to me that it’s not an issue of “touching” per se.



- Mary is “clinging” (although word means touch)
  - Why this translation? What do they see here?
  - Mary has been mourning.
    - Witnessed Jesus’ suffering and death on the cross.
    - Witnessed his burial
    - Planning on caring for his body after his death
    - She is missing Jesus terribly. Death is permanent.



- But now, here he is. Alive. Real.
  - She thought she'd lost him.
  - Now he's here. Might seem unreal.
  - Don't let go.





- Not yet ascended to the Father
  - Implies that there will be a right time to cling to Jesus in the future?
  - Also implies that Jesus has things to do at this time.
    - Acts 1:3 (ESV) 3 He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.
    - Jesus has something for Mary to do also: “go to my brothers and say”



- There are times when we need to be busy, for the time is not long.
  - There are times when we need to hold onto Jesus (coming back to this...)
  - Don't use this as an excuse to not work in the kingdom.
    - Are there things that we cling to that hinder us from helping Jesus and his kingdom to grow?
      - Things about Jesus that we are comfortable with, keeping us feeling close to him, but not doing the work that needs to be done.



- Personal things? I pray, I read my Bible, study lessons
  - Do I ever go teach?
  - Do I support those who teach?
- Congregational:
  - Can we be too focused on assemblies in the building?
    - Are our assemblies inviting and engaging to unbelievers?
  - Can we be too internally focused?
  - There's work for us to do beyond these walls.



- 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”—and that he had said these things to her.
  - Mark 16:11 But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.
  - Luke 24:11: 11 but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.





- Good news is easy to share.
  - Acts 4:19-20 (ESV) 19 But Peter and John answered them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than to God, you must judge, 20 for we cannot but speak of what we have seen and heard."
  - Acts 4:29-30 (ESV) 29 And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, 30 while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus."

We implore you  
on behalf of Christ,  
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Call to Action

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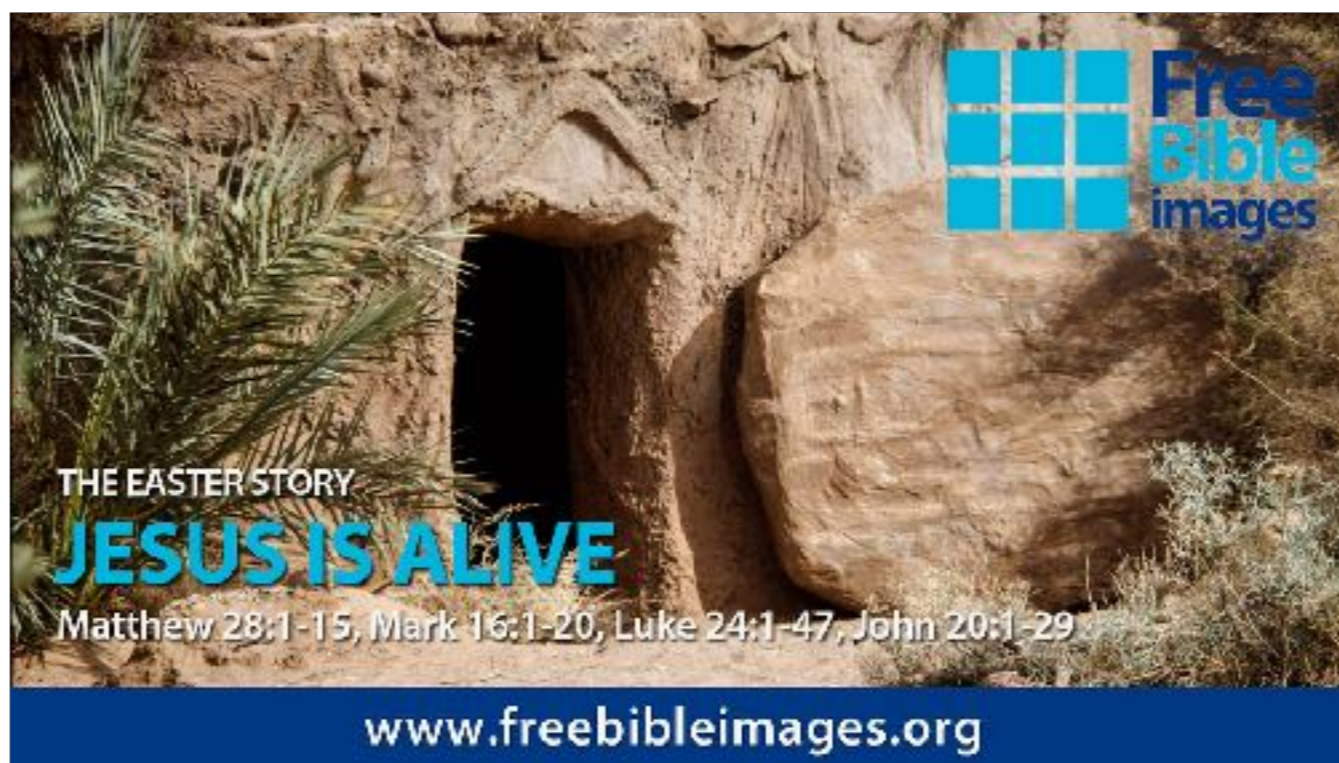
THE EASTER STORY

# JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Matthew 27:38-66, Mark 15:25-47, Luke 23:35-56, John 19:28-42.

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THE EASTER STORY

**JESUS IS ALIVE**

Matthew 28:1-15, Mark 16:1-20, Luke 24:1-47, John 20:1-29

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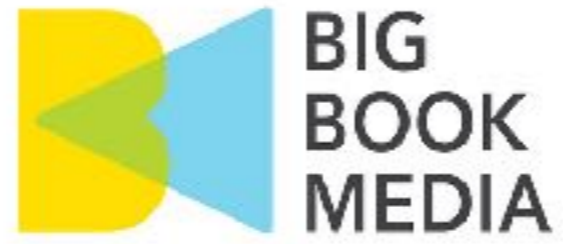
# JESUS IS CRUCIFIED

Matthew 27: 27-37, Mark 15:16-25, Luke 23:26-34, John 19:16-27

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**13) Bone & Flesh & Faith  
Women Who Hoped in God**

#13

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2024 October 13  
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## Rabboni: Mary Magdalene

John 20:11-18

Synopsis: Mary Magdalene provides important lessons about our devotion to Jesus. She ministered to Jesus during his life and was there for him during his most difficult times at the cross. She reminds us to have a deep meaningful relationship with Jesus and to be devoted to helping him to proclaim the kingdom.

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**“Let all that you do be done with love.”**