

He Lives!

Jesus' disciples and their friends were very sad because they had seen him die on the cross. Let's see how they felt on Sunday morning when they made a discovery that changed history.

"They have stolen the body of Jesus, it's no longer in the tomb!" cried Mary Magdalene, hurrying out. She went to meet Simon Peter and the other disciple and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"

"Calm down, Mary. Tell us what has happened?" Peter said.

"I went to the tomb early this morning and when I arrived I saw that the huge stone which sealed the tomb had been moved and the tomb was open. I looked inside and the Master's body was not there; someone must have taken it.

Peter and the other disciple left and went to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and reached the tomb first. Then, Simon Peter came behind him, entered the tomb, and saw strips of linen lying there along with the shroud which had covered Jesus' head.

The two men were stunned; what had happened to the body of Christ? They had to decide what they were going to do. The disciples returned to their homes.

Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. They asked her,

"Woman, why are you crying?"

She replied, "They have taken my Lord away, and I don't know where they have put him."

Having said this, she turned and saw Jesus standing there; but she didn't know it was Jesus.

Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Mary didn't yet recognize Jesus, she thought he was the gardener, and she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I'll get him."

"Jesus said to her, 'Mary!'"

"Is it true?" Mary wondered when she heard her name. "Yes it's him! He is alive!" "Teacher!" Mary cried.

Jesus said, "Go to my disciples and tell them that I live. Tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Again Mary ran to go and get the disciples.

"Jesus lives!" she said to herself. "They'll all be happy when they hear the news. Jesus really lives!"

Then Mary Magdalene went to give the disciples the news that she had seen the Lord.

(This story is found in John 20.)

