

Our Easter Story

"Then the disciples went away again to their own homes, but Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. Then they said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?'"

John 20:10-12

Amazement! Wonder! Disbelief! What could it mean? Everything was different than they expected! Where did they move the body? We just wanted to see Jesus one more time. The disciples went away to their homes, but Mary lingered... Sometimes it is at the end of our expectation that things change. Mary responded that first Easter morning,

*... "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him." Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away." Jesus said to her, "**Mary!**" She turned and said to Him, "**Rabboni!**" (which is to say, Teacher). Jesus said to her, "**Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.'**"*

John 20:13-17 NKJV

When Jesus spoke with Mary that first Easter morning He had not yet ascended. Where was He going? To the Throne of God with the receipt for your sins marked: Paid In Full. When Jesus ascended that day everything changed. He paid the price for sin and, to those who would believe Him, gave the authority which Adam had lost so many generations before. Jesus Christ was the First to rise from the dead free from sin. He took all of our sin with Him into the grave. But He came out a free man without sin! He did that for you and for me, that we might be made alive the same way Jesus was made alive.

[God] raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

Ephesians 1:20-21 NKJV

This is our Easter Story! His death became your death. His victory became your victory. When He ascended you ascended. And now, Christ has given to us Kingly Authority.

"... and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus ..."

Ephesians 2:6 NKJV

Sometimes our natural minds can blind us from the reality standing right before us! Mary turned to hear a voice but then she saw Him! I AM is alive! So Mary went and shared the truth to the wondering and confused. Will you do the same?

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