

# Welcome To

Malvern Bible Chapel



**Rabboni!**

**Easter Message**

**John 20:1-18**

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**April 1, 2018**

# Rabboni!



He is not here; for He is risen as He said. (Matt. 28:6)  
(Mt. Carmel Tomb, Jerusalem)

# Rabboni!

**Text: John 20:1-10 (NKJV)**

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

# Rabboni!

## Text: John 20:1-10 (cont.)

<sup>3</sup> Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. <sup>4</sup> So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying *there*; yet he did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying *there*, <sup>7</sup> and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. <sup>9</sup> For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.

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## Introduction:

- Easter is the most important date on the Christian calendar.
- Jesus was born (Christmas) in order to die (Good Friday, Lord's Supper each week).
- Today we celebrate a unique event in all of history. "Jesus Christ...declared to be the Son of God...by the resurrection from the dead."  
(Rom. 1:3-4)

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Inscription at Garden Tomb, Jerusalem

# Rabboni!

## Introduction:

- But how to present this familiar Easter account in some memorable way? I have chosen to do this from Mary Magdalene's perspective, like John did.
  - She was delivered from 7 demons and then chose to support the ministry of Jesus Christ (**Luke 8:2-3**).
  - She was present at the crucifixion and witnessed the burial of Jesus Christ (**Matt. 27:55-61**).
  - She was the first to see the risen Lord (**Mark 16:1-10; John 20:1-18**, our text today).



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- **Review of the crucifixion, events leading up to the burial of Jesus Christ and Sabbath rest:**
  - Thursday, April 6, 30AD (Maundy/Footwashing Thursday)
    - 1800 h (sunset): Passover/Last Supper in upper room.
    - 2100 h: leave Jerusalem, Garden of Gethsemane, pray (x3).
  - Friday, April 7, 30AD (Good Friday)
    - 0000 h (midnight): Arrest, illegal Jewish trial #1.
    - 0300 h: Jewish trials #2 (Peter's denials x 3), #3; "blasphemy".
    - 0600 h (sunrise): Roman trials #1, #2, #3; release of Barabbas.
    - 0900 h: Crucifixion began; 7 "words" of Jesus from the cross.
    - 1200 h (noon): Darkness over all the earth for 3 hours.
    - 1500 h: Crucifixion ended, Jesus gives up His spirit and dies.
    - 1800 h (sunset): Body taken down from the cross, wrapped in a newly purchased sheet, and taken by Joseph of Arimathea to his new burial tomb; Mary Magdalene saw the place.

**Rabboni!**



The Passion of Christ

# Rabboni!

- **Review of the crucifixion, events leading up to the burial of Jesus Christ and Sabbath rest (cont.):**

- Saturday, April 8, 30AD

- Sabbath day of rest for Jews: Mary Magdalene could not work.
- Perhaps Sabbath already broken by Joseph of Arimathea (touch dead body)? Nicodemus came later with spices and strips of cloth (different word)? Prepare body for burial using strips of cloth and gummy spices (replace Joseph's sheet)?

- Sunday, April 9, 30AD (Easter Sunday)

- Resurrection of Jesus Christ proving he was God!
- Cocoon of grave clothes/gummy spices; napkin folded by itself.
- Stone rolled away for disciples to enter, not for Jesus to exit!
- Arrival of the angels to announce that Jesus had already risen.
- 0600 h (sunrise): Events of our text today.

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## Introduction:

- Events Easter Sunday morning (**Jn. 20:1-10**), and the further appearances of Jesus Christ.
- **Combining the 4 narratives, the order of events on resurrection morning would be as follows:**
  - In the early morning, the women went to the tomb of Jesus to anoint His body, even though they did not know how they could get into the tomb (**Mark 16:2-3**). There were the three women: Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James *the Less (Shorter)* and of Joses (*Joseph*), **Mark 15:40, 16:1; Luke 24:10**, and Salome (*mother of Zebedee's sons, James and John, Matt. 27:56*), followed by other women (*Joanna, Luke 8:3*) who had accompanied Jesus from Galilee (**Luke 23:55-24:1**). (*italics is mine*)
  - The three women found the stone had been removed by an angel (**Matt. 28:2**). Note: John only concentrates on Mary Magdalene.

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- **Combining the 4 narratives, the order of events on resurrection morning would be as follows:**
  - Mary Magdalene hurried to tell Peter and John, who ran toward the tomb (**John 20:2-4**).
  - Meanwhile, Mary the mother of James, Salome, and then the other women arrived at the tomb, entered it, and saw angels who assured them Jesus had risen. They ran from the tomb in fear and joy to inform His disciples (**Matt. 28:8**).
  - Peter and John arrived at the tomb, entered, observed, and left (**John 20:4-10**).
  - Mary Magdalene returned to the tomb, stood weeping, and Jesus revealed Himself to her (**John 20:11-18**). (our text today)
  - As the other women were on their way to tell His disciples, Jesus appeared to them (**Matt. 28:9-10**).

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## Text: John 20:11-18 (NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down *and looked* into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> 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. <sup>13</sup> Then they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?”

She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.”

<sup>14</sup> Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing *there*, and did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?”

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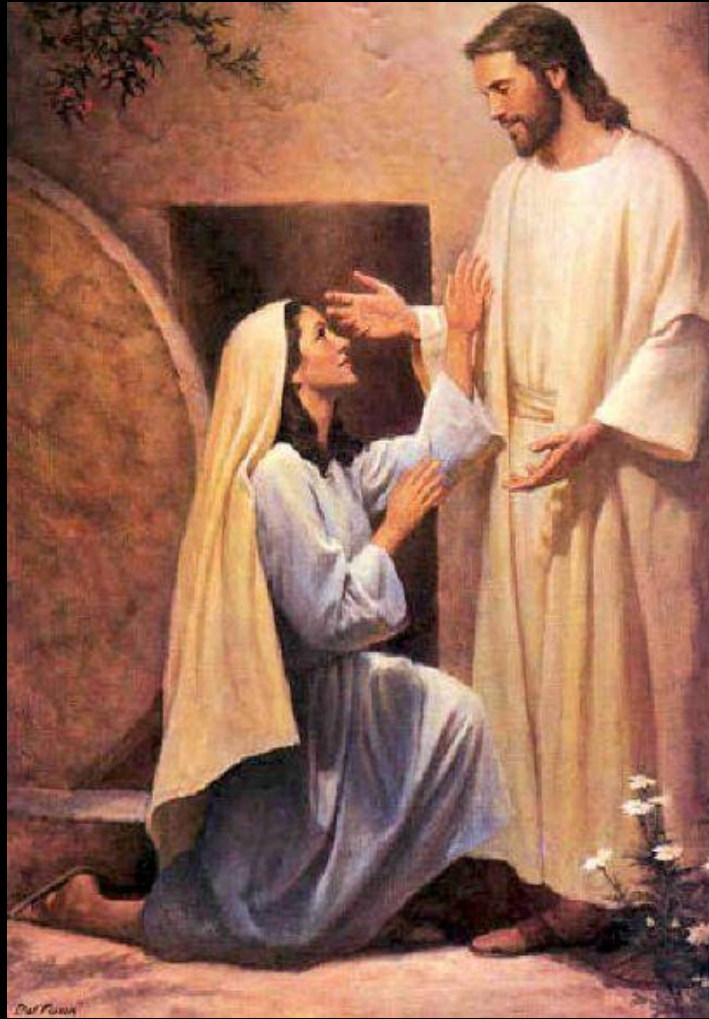
## Text: John 20:11-18 (cont.)

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.”

<sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him, “Rabboni!” (which is to say, Teacher).

<sup>17</sup> 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.’” <sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that He had spoken these things to her.

# Rabboni!



Mary Magdalene Recognizing Jesus—Rabboni!



# Rabboni!



Garden Tomb, Jerusalem

# Rabboni!

## Body of the lesson:

Mary is asked two questions (Jn. 20:14-16):

### 1. Why are you weeping?

- Mary believed that during the night someone had come to the tomb, rolled away the stone (1 ton), and taken away the body of her Lord!
- She didn't know where He was, but she had come to give him a proper burial with the spices she had prepared. In reality this evidenced a lack of faith that He would rise from the dead as he had told His disciples 3 times that He would do!
- Giving Him a proper burial was the least she could do to express her gratitude for delivering her from the demons, and freeing her to serve her new Master. She had to give her final respects, but now she couldn't have this closure!
- What about you? Are you sad and weeping this Easter season? Have you lost hope? Has the loss of a loved one caused you to feel that God deceived you? He is risen to give you new hope today!

# Rabboni!

Mary is asked two questions (Jn. 20:14-16):

## 2. Whom are you seeking?

- Mary had lost her dearest friend and companion.
- She had looked to Jesus as her teacher (Rabbi); she was His disciple.
- She had committed her life to following Jesus Christ as her Lord and Master (Rabboni). Note: As a disciple one learns from a teacher. As a true follower one submits (surrenders) to Jesus as Lord and Master. (See Nate Bramsen's new book, *What if Jesus Really Meant What He Said.?*) "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me." (Matthew 6:24)
- And what about you? Whom or what are you seeking? Is your focus on a high paying job? Becoming famous or powerful? Finding the ideal spouse? None of these can be taken with us when we die—only the Word of God and the souls of men are eternal, and that should be our primary focus and what we seek after right now.

# Rabboni!

And we might also ask as a follow-up question:

## 3. When you find Him, what effect will this encounter have on your life?

- Mary didn't recognize Jesus in His resurrected body, but when she heard His familiar voice lovingly saying her name, immediately she knew Him—Rabboni!
- Various translations use either “Rabboni” which is to say “Master” (KJV) or “Teacher” (NKJV and others). Personally I prefer “Master”.
- Mary now understood that Jesus Christ was the Son of God. Only as God could He rise from the dead! She told the other disciples. Later the disciple Thomas when he personally saw the miracle of the risen Lord also declared, “My Lord and my God!” ([John. 20:28](#))
- What about you? Do you witness that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? John wrote his Gospel a generation after the other Gospel writers. There were certain things omitted by the other writers and John includes one of them in the concluding verses of John 20.

# Rabboni!

## John 20:30-31 (NKJV)

<sup>30</sup> And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

# Rabboni!

## Conclusion:

### 1. Are you still weeping?

The resurrection of Jesus Christ brings us hope for this life!

### 2. Are you still seeking?

The resurrection of Jesus Christ motivates us to become a true follower of our Master (Rabboni)!

### 3. Are you convinced that Jesus Christ is the Son of God as proven by His resurrection?

The resurrection of Jesus Christ brings us hope to be with our God for all eternity!