

The Great Recognition – Jesus Appears to Mary

John 20:11–18

(see Mt. 28:1-15; Mk. 16:1- 11; Lk. 24:1-49)

1. *Mary returned to the tomb*

- a. Weeping convulsively
- b. Stooping, she looked in

2. *The first startling sight:*

Two angels

- a. The question of the angels:
Why are you weeping?
- b. Mary's loving devotion
and confession:
"My Lord" has been taken

3. *The second startling sight:*

Jesus Himself

- a. Mary's sense of another person –
turned to see
- b. A startling question:
Why weep? Who are you seeking?
- c. A false identity
 - 1) Because of her tears
 - 2) Because she faced in the wrong
direction – into the grave
- d. The great recognition

4. *The third startling sight:*

***A vision of the new commission
from Jesus***

- a. Do not hold on to me
- b. Go – tell your great discovery

11 But Mary stood outside the tomb crying.

As she wept,
she bent over to look into the tomb

12 And saw two angels in white,
seated where Jesus' body had been,
one at the head and the other at the foot.

13 They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?"
"They have taken my Lord away," she said,
"and I don't know where they have put him."

14 At this, she turned around
and saw Jesus standing there,
but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

15 "Woman," he said, "why are you crying?
Who is it you are looking for?"
Thinking he was the gardener,
she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away,
tell me where you have put him,
and I will get him."

16 Jesus said to her, "Mary."
She turned toward him
and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!"
(which means Teacher).

17 Jesus said, "Do not hold on to me,
for I have not yet returned to the Father.
Go instead to my brothers and tell them,
'I am returning to my Father and your Father,
to my God and your God.'"

18 Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news:
"I have seen the Lord!"
And she told them
that he had said these things to her.