

What have they done with my Lord?

NIV John 20:1 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, **“They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have put him!”** ³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. ⁷ He saw the strips of linen lying there, as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus’ head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ **Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.** ⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.) ¹⁰ Then **the disciples went back to where they were staying.** ¹¹ Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, ¹² 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 He asked her, **“Woman, 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 ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending 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.

I

This gospel reading **focus** is on a woman, Mary Magdalene.

The gospel writers have a tendency to concentrate on the males interaction at the resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15 focuses on the men that Jesus appears to.

John’s Gospel focuses on a woman Jesus **interacts** with after His resurrection.

- Remember, the women came first!

II

This gospel reading **focus** is a question **comment** that was said three times by Mary Magdalene. ***Vs. 2, 13, 15***

What have they done with the Lord?

In today’s world, we must raise this question as well in the Western church.

Jesus was Jewish, of the house of David of the tribe of Judah.

In the West, we have seen the Romanization of Jesus.

We have seen the Europeanization of Jesus.

We have seen the colonization of Jesus.

We have seen the Westernization of Jesus.

We have seen the Americanization of Jesus.

The Five Watersheds of History and Theology Dana Carson, C.Psy.D., D.Min., Ph.D.

What have you done with my Lord?

III

This gospel focuses on the woman's c**onsistent** effort to find the real Jesus.

What have they done with the Lord?

This woman's p**ersistence** even moves Jesus in the way that He addresses her.

He moves from calling her woman to calling her by her name, Mary.

Mary is commissioned to go tell the disciples He has risen.

What have they done with Jesus?

He is risen!

He has broken out of every definition, political identity, and imagery they have tried to place upon him.

He is risen!

He is not Roman, European, colonizer, western, or American.

He is who He says He is!

He is alive **forevermore!**

He is the savior of the **world!**

He is Jesus, Savior and our Lord

Because He rose, and you are in Him, rise out of any circumstance, that you find yourself in.

Because He rose, and you are in Him, go rise out of the condition you are in.

Because He arose, you can arise anytime you call Him Lord, Rabbi, and Teacher in your life.

What have they done with the Lord?

He has risen out of everything they tried to do to Him, and He lives forevermore!

Rhema Christian Center
Bishop La Fayette Scales
Resurrection Weekend
Saturday & Sunday, March 30 & 31, 2024
9:30 a.m.