

Gospel of John
[Jesus' Appearance to Mary Magdalene (John 20:11-18)]

I. Mary's Encounter with the Angels (vs. 11-13)

-The Cause of Mary's Distress: What happened to Jesus' body?

-The Angels' Question: a gentle rebuke; not intended to obtain information

II. Mary's Encounter with Jesus (vs. 14-17)

-At first, Mary doesn't recognize Jesus/assumes He is the gardener (see 21:4).

-Jesus' Questions: gentle rebuke/reflection; not intended to obtain information

-Meaning of Jesus' words in v. 17

-Jesus charges Mary with a task.

III. Mary's Announcement to the Disciples (v. 18)

-Mary faithfully discharges her task and delivers Jesus' message to the disciples.

Practical Lessons

1) Hunger for Christ will be proportionately rewarded (Ps. 147:11; Jer. 29:13; John 14:21).

2) The fears and sorrows of God's people are often without any warrant (Gen. 42:36).

3) Believers are Christ's envoys sent to announce the good news.

4) The good news about Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension is too important to ignore or reject.