

BIBLE STUDY on JOHN (NIV) Part 30

JESUS APPEARS TO MARY

John 20 v 11 - 17

“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 as 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.’”



How Jesus Respects Women

In both the hours of darkest tragedy and the hours of brightest joy, Jesus showed respect for women. During the agony of His crucifixion, Jesus tenderly spoke to His mother and gave her into the care of His beloved disciple, John (John 19 v 26, 27). Now, in the triumph of His resurrection, He chose to appear *first* to a woman—another Mary.

Godly women, who trust in God and wear the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit are **“which is of great worth in God’s sight.”** (1 Peter 3 v 4) When God made man in His own image, He created male *and* female as a *perfect whole* to mirror His likeness (Genesis 1 v 27). In spiritual things, God gives both women and men the same opportunity to come to Christ and receive the same inheritance. **“Through these He has given us His very great and precious promises so that through them you may participate (take part) in the divine nature ...”** (2 Peter 1 v 4) **“There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”** (Galatians 3 v 28)

God honours women so much that He commanded husbands to love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and gave His very life for it. (Ephesians 5 v 25) **“In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.”** (Ephesians 5 v 28) God loves perfect union and harmony between husband and wife. He *hates* divorce. **“I hate divorce,” says the Lord God of Israel...** (Malachi 2 v 16) **“...then make My joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit but in humility consider others better than yourselves.”** (Philippians 2 v 2, 3)