

# **The Power Of One Woman's Witness**

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**Scripture:** John 20:11-18

**Text:** vs. 18.

## **Introduction:**

- There are so many wonderful women in the Bible. One of those is a woman who first appeared at the tomb of Jesus on resurrection morning – Mary Magdalene.
- Who is Mary Magdalene? Mary Magdalene sometimes called Mary of Magdala, or simply the Magdalene, was a woman, according to Bible who traveled with Jesus as one of his followers and was a witness to His crucifixion and the first witness of His resurrection. Mary's epithet "**Magdalene**" means that she probably came from the town of Magdala, a fishing village on the northwestern shore of the Sea of Galilee. Magdala means "**salted fish.**"
- She was a single lady (prob a little older) and represents all women regardless of age, stage or position in life. The Bible doesn't talk about a husband, children, mom, dad, brother or sister, just friends. She was just a woman who loved Jesus. The name "**Mary**" means "**my beloved.**"
- She is a woman whom Christ loved and Who had done great things for her.
- In this story we see God's power displayed in her life and the life that she devoted and gave for Christ and the impact that she had upon the world.

## **I. The Salvation Mary Found (Luke 8:2).**

A. Mary was a woman healed by the Lord.

1. Not much is said about the life of Mary although much has been written and sensationalized about her.
  - a. She was a "**certain woman.**" God cares about the individual.
  - b. She was an "**afflicted**" woman – "**evil spirits.**"
  - c. She was a woman who had "**infirmities.**"

2. Mary became a devoted follower of the Lord, thankful for His healing and saving power.

## **II. The Savior Mary Sought (vs. 11).**

A. The sorrow she displayed (vs. 11a).

1. The cause of her tears.

B. The hope that she had (vs. 11b).

1. The position she took.
  - a. Mary's **position** pictures the hope that she ready to see her friend.
    - (1). Mary **stood** at the door of the sepulcher.
    - (2). Mary **stooped** at the door of the sepulcher expecting to see Him.
    - (3). Mary **looked** with expectation and anticipation.

## **III. The Sight Mary Saw (vs. 12-16).**

A. The messengers of **hope** that Mary saw (vs. 12).

1. We all have a fallen, sin-cursed and confusing world where everyone is looking for hope.

2. The angelic messengers covered the expanse of the tomb – one at the head and one at the feet.

B. The words of **help** that Mary heard (vs. 13; Luke 24:5).

1. The question she was asked.

2. The confusion with which Mary responded.

C. The way **He** revealed Himself (vs. 14).

1. The way that she saw.

2. The words that Christ spoke (vs. 15).

D. The **heaven** Mary found (vs. 16).

1. His Words she heard.

a. She heard His voice (John 10:27; Rev. 3:20).

b. Christ spoke her name (Isa. 49:15).

c. She turned to Him (Acts 20:21; Mark 1:15).

d. She confessed Him - **“Rabboni” “Master.”** But He was really her Lord and her God.

#### **IV. The Submission Mary Displayed (vs. 17-18).**

A. The command He gave (vs. 17).

1. Not to touch.

2. But to go and tell.

B. The message she gave to her friends (vs. 18).

1. What she had seen and heard and to come and see.

2. That is our responsibility today.

#### **Conclusion:**

Thank God for the women at the tomb and the women in the Christian life! Compassionate, willing to hear and believe, willing to obey and testify of God’s goodness and grace. May we all appreciate God’s gift of the women that God has given to us in our lives.