The Empty Tomb, Are You Mindful Of The Things Of God Or The Things Of Men?, APRIL 12, 2020, S-1380-KL

These notes are posted as a guide for those listening to or watching the virtual, YouTube, Resurrection Sunday 2020 service given by Pastor Kevin Lea

Matt 16:21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, **and be raised the third day**. 22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" 23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men." (Repeated in Mark 8, Luke 9)

John 12:27 "Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? <u>But for</u> this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again."

Matt 17:22 Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, 23 and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up." And they were exceedingly sorrowful. (Repeated in Mark and Luke 9)

Mark 10:33 "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; 34 and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." (Repeated in Matthew 20 and Luke 18)

Matt 26:31 Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' 32 But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee." (Repeated in Mark 14, Luke 22 and John 13)

Matt 26:45 Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand." (Repeated in Mark 14, Luke 22)

1 Cor 15:12 Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. 15 Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up — if in fact the dead do not rise. 16 For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. 17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! 18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

The Harmony of the Gospel Accounts of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

By Pastor Kevin Lea Resurrection Sunday 2011 Original April 24, 2011 This version Sept 4, 2014 https://calvarypo.org/harmony-of-the-gospel-accounts-of-the-resurrection-of-jesus-christ/

		T 1	T 1
Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Matthew 27:58-61: This	Mark 15:43-47: Joseph of	Luke 23:50-55: Now	John 19:38-42: After this,
man went to Pilate and	Arimathea, a prominent	behold, there was a man	Joseph of Arimathea, being
asked for the body of Jesus.	council member, who was	named Joseph, a council	a disciple of Jesus, but
Then Pilate commanded the	himself waiting for the	member, a good and just	secretly, for fear of the
body to be given to him.	kingdom of God, coming	man. He had not consented	Jews, asked Pilate that he
When Joseph had taken the	and taking courage, went in	to their decision and deed.	might take away the body of
body, he wrapped it in a	to Pilate and asked for the	He was from Arimathea, a	Jesus; and Pilate gave him
clean linen cloth, and laid it	body of Jesus. Pilate	city of the Jews, who	permission. So he came and
in his new tomb which he	marveled that He was	himself was also waiting for	took the body of Jesus. And
had hewn out of the rock;	already dead; and	the kingdom of God. This	Nicodemus, who at first
and he rolled a large stone	summoning the centurion,	man went to Pilate and	came to Jesus by night, also
against the door of the tomb,	he asked him if He had been	asked for the body of Jesus.	came, bringing a mixture of
and departed. And Mary	dead for some time. So	Then he took it down,	myrrh and aloes, about a
Magdalene was there, and	when he found out from the	wrapped it in linen, and laid	hundred pounds. Then they
the other Mary, sitting	centurion, he granted the	it in a tomb that was hewn	took the body of Jesus, and
opposite the tomb.	body to Joseph. Then he	out of the rock, where no	bound it in strips of linen
	bought fine linen, took Him	one had ever lain before.	with the spices, as the
	down, and wrapped Him in	That day was the	custom of the Jews is to
	the linen. And he laid Him	Preparation, and the Sabbath	bury. Now in the place
	in a tomb which had been	drew near. And the women	where He was crucified
	hewn out of the rock, and	who had come with Him	there was a garden, and in
	rolled a stone against the	from Galilee followed after,	the garden a new tomb in
	door of the tomb. And	and they observed the tomb	which no one had yet been
	Mary Magdalene and Mary	and how His body was laid.	laid. So there they laid
	the mother of Joses		Jesus, because of the Jews'
	observed where He was		Preparation Day, for the
	laid.		tomb was nearby.

From these accounts we learn that a member of the ruling counsel of the Jews (Sanhedrin), a man named Joseph of Arimathea, was the one to place the body of Jesus into an unused tomb. Joseph, with the help of fellow counsel member Nicodemus, wrapped Jesus' body with linen and spices according to the tradition of the day. Jesus died on the Jewish Passover, the 14th Day of Nisan. In Jesus' day, Nisan 14 was referred to as the Preparation Day (for Passover week). Earlier verses explained the urgency to bury Jesus, and it is important to know why.

The 15th day of Nisan was the beginning of the week-long Jewish feast of Unleavened Bread (Leviticus 23:4-7). It began at sunset and was a special Sabbath day (High Sabbath – John 19:31) according to Jewish law. This first day of Unleavened Bread was also the beginning of Passover week, even though the *literal* Passover is on the day *before* the week-long feast. Joseph and Nicodemus knew that Jesus' burial needed to be completed before sunset on Nisan 14 in order to avoid violating the Nissan 15 High Sabbath. Those who lack the understanding of Jewish Feasts and the special Sabbaths associated with those feasts have mistakenly assumed that Jesus died on Friday, the day before the traditional weekly (Saturday) Sabbath. He did not.

In the year that Jesus died, Nisan 14 was on a Wednesday for reasons explained below. So the Nisan 15 High Sabbath was on a Thursday (which began at sunset on Wednesday). Remember that this is the first day of Unleavened Bread but is also referred to as the beginning of the Passover week. Now read the following verses in Mark and Luke:

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
	Mark16:1: Now when the Sabbath was past,	Luke 23:56: Then they returned and prepared	
	Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James,	spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the	
	and Salome bought spices, that they might come	Sabbath according to the commandment.	
	and anoint Him.		

The women likely noticed that the men in their haste had not taken the time to properly prepare the body of Jesus for burial. So they plan to return to the tomb to complete the customary burial preparations as soon as they could after the High Sabbath. But first they must leave the tomb to return to their homes before sunset to celebrate the High Sabbath of the first day of Unleavened Bread (Thursday) with their families.

When Friday (the day after the High Sabbath and a normal work day) arrives, the women go out to purchase spices in preparation for entering the tomb *after* the next day which is the customary Saturday Sabbath or as Luke describes, "*the Sabbath according to the commandment*". The women did not attempt to enter the tomb on Friday because guards were stationed at the tomb as described in Matthew's account below (According to this passage, it is logical to conclude that the guards would have kept everyone, including these women, from entering the tomb for the full three days and nights after Jesus' burial.). Further, the women would not be able to do any work on the customary Saturday Sabbath and therefore would not have attempted to enter the tomb on Saturday. Therefore, Sunday was the earliest day they could have expected to be able to complete the burial practices of the Jews, so this becomes their plan.

Mark says the women bought/prepared spices after the Sabbath and Luke says they did so before the Sabbath. It is impossible to reconcile this apparent contradiction without the understanding that Mark is talking about the High Sabbath of Nissan 15 while Luke is talking about the normal Saturday Sabbath (as he says, "the Sabbath according to the commandment" – meaning the Ten Commandments); and the two Sabbaths are separated by a normal work day (Friday – which allowed the women to buy and prepare the spices). Therefore, a Thursday or Friday death of Jesus is problematic or impossible, Jesus must have died on a Wednesday.

Some reject the idea of a Wednesday crucifixion because in 33AD the Passover did not fall on a Wednesday, but instead was on Thursday. I would like to make two rebuttals to this argument.

(1) Jesus did not die in AD 33. People who hold to this view ignore the evidence that the Gregorian calendar is in error. There is strong evidence that Herod the Great died about 4 BC and Matthew makes it clear that Jesus was alive before Herod's death (Jesus may have even been two years old based on Herod killing all the male children of Bethlehem who were two years old and under - Matthew 2:16). If Jesus began His ministry when He was about thirty years old (Luke 3:23), and as most will agree - ministered for three and a half years before being crucified, then Jesus' death (at thirty three years old) was closer to AD 29. So when was the Passover on or about AD 29? The answer to this question is my second point.

(2) There is no way to positively know when Passover was on AD 29, or AD 33, or any year in great antiquity. The Jewish records of the Temple were destroyed in AD 70 and attempts to go back in time to reconstruct Passover dates cannot be assured with 100% certainty. After researching this question, Dr. David Reagan concluded that Jesus died on the Wednesday Passover of AD 31.¹ This date is certainly much closer to the actual crucifixion date than AD 33, and if Passover was on Wednesday in that year, then I would agree with Dr. Reagan that this was the actual year of Jesus' death.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Matthew 27:62-66: On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees			
gathered together to Pilate, saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said,			
'After three days I will rise.' Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His			1
disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last			
deception will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make it as			1
secure as you know how." So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.			

Only Matthew records what the religious leaders were doing on Friday (the day after the Thursday High Sabbath)

¹ "The Resurrection of Jesus in Prophecy: Did the resurrection fulfill the prophecy of Jonah?," Online at: <u>http://www.raptureready.com/featured/reagan/dr14.html</u>

while the women were buying and preparing spices in preparation for going to the tomb on the day after the customary Saturday Sabbath.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Matthew 28:2-4: And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven,			
and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning and his			
clothing as white as snow. And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.			

Again, only Matthew gives this detail about what happened before the women arrived early Sunday morning. I am placing verses 2 through 4 before verse 1 because these events occurred chronologically before verse 1. Matthew put this out of chronology so the reader would know this event happened on Sunday (probably right after sunset on Saturday) and not Friday which was the time frame of the previous verses, Chapter 27:62-66.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
			John 20:1: Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it
			was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.

John records that it was Mary Magdalene who arrived first (and apparently alone) at the garden tomb area while it was still dark. She may have awakened early and thought that it was closer to sunrise than it actually was. (There were no watches and alarm clocks then!)

Mary would have traveled to the tomb by moonlight – it was only three days past the full moon – and if it were a clear night, she may have observed from a distance that the stone had been moved. The soldiers may have also still been there. If they were, they soon leave as Matthew records in a later verse (Matthew 28:11).

Mary may have been fearful to approach any nearer to the tomb alone, so she waits until someone else arrives. Matthew records that it was the "other Mary" who is next to join Mary Magdalene. Comparing Matthew 27:61 and Mark 15:47, this "other Mary" was likely Mary, the mother of Joses.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Matthew 28:1: Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the			
other Mary came to see the tomb.			

With the arrival of the second Mary, the two of them drew closer to the tomb with the stone rolled away. It is still very early because first light was only now beginning to appear.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Matthew 28:5-8: But the angel [that rolled away the stone and had frightened the guards as recorded in verses			
3 and 4] answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was			
crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go	ĺ		
quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee;			
there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you." So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and			
great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.			

The same angel who rolled away the stone and frightened the guards is now startling the two Marys who were the first to arrive at the tomb on that remarkable Sunday. (Others are soon to arrive.) The angel commands them to go and tell the disciples.

John then records how Mary Magdalene obeyed this command by running to tell Peter and John the news. We can tell from the following verses that Mary Magdalene and the "other Mary" must have parted as they left the tomb, which makes sense since they certainly would have wanted to spread the angel's message quickly.

Matthew Mark Luke John

The Harmony of the Resurrection Accounts

	John 20:2: Then she [Mary Magdalene] ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple [John], whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."
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When Mary Magdalene told John and Peter that "they" have taken away the Lord, she may not have been referring to people but to the angel(s) who had already informed her that Jesus had risen.

It is not a stretch to paraphrase this verse to say, "John and Peter, the other Mary and I arrived at the tomb very early and found the stone rolled away. As we approached, we saw an angel who told us not to be afraid and that Jesus was no longer in the tomb because He had risen from the dead. He then told us that we were to go and tell you that Jesus is alive. There was another angel at the tomb, too. The angels didn't tell us what they did with Jesus, only that He was alive and no longer in the tomb, so we don't know where Jesus is."

It is quite possible that although Matthew emphasizes the one angel who rolled away the stone, Mary may have been aware of the other angel(s) who were also present; thus she uses the term "they." It is easy to imagine that Mary (although being told Jesus was alive) would have thought Jesus had been taken somewhere to lie down rather than being fully healed and glorified after suffering death on the cross. That is why she told John and Peter that she didn't know where the angels "laid" Him. It is also possible that she started to question the angel(s) message that Jesus was alive and instead thought that they had moved the body to a different location, in the same way Michael the Archangel hid the body of Moses (compare Deuteronomy 34:6 with Jude 9). If this were the case, doubt must have crept in after her initial joy (Matthew 28:8).

There is one other possible explanation for Mary's choice of words when telling John and Peter what had happened at the tomb. Although the angel's "countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow" (Matthew 28:3) when he rolled away the stone with the guards present, he may have changed his appearance to that of a man when the two Marys arrived. There are several instances in Scripture where angels are mistaken for human men (Genesis 19, for example). If this were the case, Mary would have simply been telling John and Peter what "they" (thinking "they" were men) had told her. The accounts of Mark and Luke, which document what the other two groups of women experienced that morning, increase the likelihood that this was indeed the case.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Matthew 28:11-15: Now while they [Mary Magdalene and the other Mary] were going, behold, some of the			
guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. When they had			
assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, saying,			
"Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.' And if this comes to the			
governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure." So they took the money and did as they were			
instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.			

These verses are placed before verses 9 and 10 for chronological clarity. Matthew states that as the two Marys ran to tell the disciples, the soldiers approach their superiors in Jerusalem to tell them that the tomb they were ordered to guard had been opened by an angelic being. Notice that the religious leaders believe the soldiers' account. Otherwise, they would have turned them over to the Romans for execution and spared no expense in helping the Romans find the body of Jesus by interrogating and killing those responsible for the grave robbery and associated hoax.

Had the rulers (Jewish and Roman) ordered interrogations and executions, their failure to produce Jesus' body would have only made the resurrection story even more believable to the people. Therefore, the decision by the religious elders to pay the soldiers to lie and not launch an investigation was the wisest course in attempting to cover up the truth that Jesus did indeed raise from the grave.

Mark 16:2: Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. Luke 24:1: Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.	Matt	thew	Mark	Luke	John
when the sun had risen. the spices which they had prepared.			Mark 16:2: Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb	Luke 24:1: Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing	
			when the sun had risen.	the spices which they had prepared.	

After the two Marys had already visited the tomb and left to tell the others (as recorded in Matthew and John), two other groups of women arrive as they had planned on Friday to do. Mark records the events of one group, while Luke records the other These women may not have known that the two Marys had already been to the tomb and left. Apparently (from the following passages), the second group arrived and departed before the third group arrived, and each group had a slightly different encounter with the angels who were still at the tomb. It is not possible to know which group arrived before the other, so we will consider both accounts together.

The Harmony of the Resurrection Accounts

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
	Mark 16:3-5: And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the	Luke 24:2-5: But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not	
	tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away - for it was	find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that	
	very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the	behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces	
	right side: and they were alarmed.	to the earth.	

Mark records that one group of women begins to wonder how the stone of the tomb was going to be moved. This seems odd considering they were fully aware that the stone must be moved for them to enter the tomb, and moving this huge stone was no job for women! Why did they not consider this earlier? A reasonable explanation is that the women were depending on the guards to help them move the stone. They almost certainly would have known that Pilate's edict was that the tomb was to be sealed and guarded for *three days and three nights*. Since Jesus died on Wednesday and had been in the tomb for three days and nights (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) by now, the soldiers would have been permitted to break the seal and allow the women to enter. But as this group of women near the tomb, they notice that the soldiers are already gone and so become concerned about how to move the stone. As they get closer still, they realize the stone has also *already* been moved, and they enter the tomb.

Mark's group of women is met by an angel that appears to them as a young man in a long white robe. They apparently notice him before they notice that the body of Jesus is missing. The other group (recorded by Luke) first discovers that the tomb of Jesus is empty and then are frightened by two angels, also appearing to them as men, in shining garments.

These accounts by Mark and Luke are not contradictory, but rather complementary. They are the historical records of what actually happened on Resurrection Sunday as various groups of women arrived on that glorious morning.

N	Matthew	Mark	Luke	
		Mark 16:6-7: But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was	Luke 24:5-7: They said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but	
		crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples	is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must	
		and Peter — that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."	be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."	

Mark records the angels saying that Jesus would not show Himself to at least some of the disciples until He met them in Galilee. This is important in understanding where some of the appearances recorded in the Gospels actually took place. As we will see, Thomas did not see Jesus until he was in Galilee.

Matthew	Mark	Luke		
	Mark 16:8: So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and	Luke 24:8-10: And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. It was		
	were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.	Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the apostles.		

Mark records that as the women quickly dispersed to tell the other disciples, they did not tell those they would have certainly encountered along the way. Luke records that there were several women involved in discovering the empty tomb that morning, and that all of them went on to tell the male disciples of Jesus' resurrection.

Jesus had told the disciples that he would be betrayed, abused, and killed, but they did not believe Him. In fact, it had been so unbelievable to them that they had pushed the warning by Jesus completely out of their mind and did not remember until the angels reminded them.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
		Luke 24:11-12: And their words	John 20:2-10: Then she [Mary Magdalene] ran and came to
		seemed to them like idle tales, and	Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved,
		they did not believe them. But Peter	and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the
		arose and ran to the tomb; and	tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."
		stooping down, he saw the linen	Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple [John], and
		cloths lying by themselves; and he	were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the
		departed, marveling to himself at	other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And
		what had happened.	he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying
			there; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came,
			following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen
			cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been
			around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded
			together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who
			came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and
			believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He
			must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went
			away again to their own homes.

John records that it was Mary Magdalene who told Peter and John about the empty tomb, so the two Marys must have separated when they left after being told by the angel that Jesus was raised. From the following verses, we can deduce that after Mary told Peter and John, she followed them back to the tomb. Since the men were running, they likely reached the tomb before Mary Magdalene arrived for the second time. If Mary arrived before they left, she stayed and wept rather than returning with them to their homes. (Apparently, the other two groups of women arrived and left before Peter, John, and Mary Magdalene arrived). It is possible that Jesus revealed himself to Peter while Peter returned to his house from the tomb. 1 Cor 15:5 states that Jesus "was seen by Cephas, **then** by the twelve". This means that Peter either saw Jesus on the way home or that he was the first to see Jesus when he appeared to the others as recorded by John 20:19-23, or at some time between these two events that is not recorded.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John		
			John 20:11-13: But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and		
			looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet,		

where the body of Jesus had lain. Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to
them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

After John and Peter leave, Mary has another angelic visitation inside the tomb. It is not enough for Mary to know that Jesus is alive. She wants to see Him, and Mark gives us a clue as to why.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
	Mark 16:9: Now		John 20:14-17: Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw
	when He rose early on		Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her,
	the first day of the		"Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She,
	week, He appeared		supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried
	first to Mary		Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."
	Magdalene, out of		Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!"
	whom He had cast		(which is to say, Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I
	seven demons.		have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to
			them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and
			your God."

Jesus had taught that those who are forgiven much, love much (Luke 7:47). We do not know much about Mary of Magdalene's past, but her sinful lifestyle left her vulnerable to be possessed of seven demons, all of which Jesus cast out. As a result, Mary had a deeper appreciation for Jesus than the other disciples, and she was more deeply distressed, not knowing where He had gone.

Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
	Mark 16:10-11: She went and told those who had been with		John 20:18: Mary Magdalene came and told the
	Him, as they mourned and wept. And when they heard that He		disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that
	was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.		He had spoken these things to her.

Mary's first trip to the disciples was to tell them that the tomb was empty. Now she goes to tell all the disciples that she has seen the risen Lord. Due to the absurdity of the claim, and the fact that the news is coming from a women, the men do not believe her. (Women were not considered credible witnesses in that culture.)

See <u>https://calvarypo.org/harmony-of-the-gospel-accounts-of-the-resurrection-of-jesus-christ/</u> for the rest of the harmony table verses

But after Jesus had revealed himself to all of them and to over 500 at one time (1 Cor 15:6), they believed and for the rest of their lives spread the message that Jesus has risen, and that anyone who believed in him would not perish but have everlasting life.

John 11:21 Now Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." 23 Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." 24 Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" 27 She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

Which is it for you?

Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, **but the things of men.**"