

**Bible reading:
John 20 : 1 -8**

John 20 : 1-8

The Empty Tomb

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,

John 20 : 1-8

The Empty Tomb

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.

John 20 : 1-8

The Empty 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.

John 20 : 1-8

The Empty Tomb

⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen.

John 20 : 1-8

The Empty Tomb

8 Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed.



“He is Risen”

John 20 : 1- 8
The Empty Tomb

Speaker: Huub Bogaers

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. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that had been wrapped round 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.**

Saw – fact

Believed - meaning

Truth and meaning

■ Truth

- *Fact, but also*
- *Coherent*
- *Consensus*
- *'it works' pragmatism*

■ Meaning

- In the discussion about the 'fact' we should not forget about the meaning of the resurrection.

Truth in STORIES...

- Childrens stories: play and truth
 - *Catches attention*
 - *Creative, unusual ideas*
 - *Made up stories, but basic truth*
- Easter story and truth
 - *Also catches attention*
 - *Unusual*
 - *Made up story? / Historic fact only?*

Truth in EASTER STORY...

■ Facts

- *Eye for detail: Running, cloths...*
- *Two male witnesses!*

■ Catches attention

- *Speed*
- *unexpected*

■ He saw and believed:

- *What did he believe?*

- 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 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 round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realise 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 towards 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.

Truth in EASTER STORY...

Facts?

- *Eye for drama: Angels, dialogue*
- *One female witness, who is emotional and seems confused...*

Catches attention

- *Unexpected*
- *Lots of meaning!*

At the word “Mary” the text changes completely; emphasis first on laying down, afterward about ascent.

- Two words in another language (Aramaic)

Mary = Miriam

Rabboeni = Master

- Being named is essential – Jesus knows her by name

- Rabboeni “master” is used only for God

Other appearances of the resurrected Jesus:

The disciples: fearful > peace to you

To Thomas: put your fingers in my wounds

To Peter: 3x Do you love me?

Men going towards Emmaus: explain and break
bread

Disciples in unbelief: Jesus eats something

- Jesus appears before his ascension only to
believers

- And helps them on in their faith...

Jesus meets people where they are...

Where are we?

What do we need?

- When we meet Jesus, He meets us where we are
- He meets our needs
- There are **FACTS**
- There is **MEANING**

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep...

1Cor 15:3-7

Facts!

EASTER AND NEW BIRTH

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Col 3:1

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1Pet 1:2

Meaning!

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

That power is like the working of his mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms...

**Fact +
Meaning**

The same power that conquered death works in us to have faith and conquer sin!

EASTER AND NEW BIRTH

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins.... But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, **made us alive with Christ** even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

Applying the power of the resurrection to our lives.

- I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

■ Philippians 3:10

