



Women at the Tomb

“Fear Not”

Matthew 28:1-8

says that when the “two” women, **Mary Magdalene**, and the other **Mary**, went to visit the tomb, there was an earthquake and an angel came down from heaven, rolled back the stone and sat on it. He told them Jesus was risen, so they left quickly and apparently without entering the tomb, so that they could tell the disciples.

Mark 16:1-8

Says that when the **three women**, Mary Magdalene, the other Mary and Salome went to visit the tomb, they saw the stone already rolled away. They entered the tomb and saw a young man, who told them Jesus was risen and that they should go and tell the disciples and Peter. They left and told no one of this for they were afraid.

Luke 24:1-12

says that when a **group of women**, including **Mary Magdalene, another Mary and Joanna**, when to visit the tomb, they saw the stone already rolled away. They entered the tomb and saw two men in shining garments, who explained that Jesus was risen. When they went to tell the apostles, Peter ran to the sepulchre and looked inside, seeing only the linen cloths laid by themselves.

John 20:1-14

says that **Mary Magdalene went alone** to visit the tomb but as she approached, she saw the stone rolled away. She ran back, apparently without entering the tomb, and told this to Peter and the disciple who Jesus loved. The two disciples ran to the tomb and looked inside, but it was the beloved disciple who understood and believed. Mary Magdalene must have returned to the tomb, because she looked inside and saw two angels, then saw Jesus standing outside next to her.



Joanna (wife of Chuza)

Among the first women to discover the empty tomb ([Luke 24:10](#)), she was the wife of Chuza, the household manager or steward of King Herod Antipas ([Luke 8:3](#)).

She was a follower of Jesus and helped to provide financially for Jesus's ministry, along with Susanna and many others ([Luke 8:3](#)).



Mary Magdalene

- A Galilean woman probably from the town of Magdala (on the west bank of the Sea of Galilee). Jesus delivered her from seven demons (Luke 8:2; Mark 16:9).
- She became a follower of Jesus (Matt. 27:57), a witness to the crucifixion and burial (Matt. 27:61; 28:1; Mark 15:40, 47; John 19:25), and was among the women who went to the tomb on Sunday (Mark 16:1; John 20:1).
- She was the first person to see Jesus alive (Mark 16:9) and told the other disciples (Luke 24:10; John 20:18).



Mary (mother of Jesus, widow of Joseph of Nazareth)

She gave birth to Jesus, raised him, was present at his execution and burial, and witnessed his resurrection life.

From the cross Jesus entrusted his widowed mother to John's care, and she went to live in his home ([John 19:25-27](#))—perhaps because Mary's other sons were not yet believers ([John 7:5](#); see also [Matt. 13:57](#); [Mark 3:21, 31; 6:4](#)).

Mary's other sons were named:

- James (author of the biblical book of James)
- Joseph/Joses
- Simon
- Judas/Jude (author of the biblical book of Jude)

She also had at least two daughters ([Mark 6:3](#)).



Mary (mother of James and Joseph)

A witness of Jesus's crucifixion, burial, and resurrection appearances. Her sons were named James the Younger (hence her husband must have been named James) and Joses/Joseph. See Matt. 27:61; 27:56; Mark 15:40, 47. The fact that two Marys in the story have sons with the same names (James and Joseph/Joses) shows the commonality of certain names in first-century Galilee. The name Mary, in particular, was exceedingly common in first-century Palestine, hence the need to distinguish between different Marys in the Gospels, whether by way of their hometown (Mary Magdalene) or in association with their husband (Mary of Clopas) or sons (Mary mother of James and Joses).



Mary (wife of Clopas)

A Galilean witness of Jesus's crucifixion, she may be identified as Jesus's "mother's sister" ([John 19:25](#))—though see discussion under Salome below.

According to Hegesippus, as quoted by the historian Eusebius, Clopas was the brother of Joseph of Nazareth (*Hist. Eccl.* 3.11; 3.32.6; 4.22.4). If so, Mary and Clopas were Jesus's aunt and uncle. Their son Simeon (Jesus's cousin) became a leader of the Jerusalem church succeeding James the brother of Jesus.



Salome (mother of James and John)

One of Jesus's female followers in Galilee, she witnessed the crucifixion and went to the tomb on Sunday (Mark 15:40; 16:1).

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BUT WE CAN DO
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- MOTHER TERESA

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- Demonstrate love in spite of our circumstances
 - Example is looking at the life of Mary Magdalene who was healed from her affliction of being possessed with seven demons. She became one of the most devoted disciples to Jesus and she as devoted to the work of Jesus.
 - Show love through our actions.
 - Demonstrate the love of God by showing love regardless of the situation.
 - We are not called to love only those who love us.

Be Faithful
in Your
Service




GOD
IS FAITHFUL
— — — — —
BE FAITHFUL



Be faithful in Your Service

- Do not let obstacles or distractions stop you from being faithful.
 - God will provide the resources and the means to get the assignment done.
 - We have to be willing to move to the place where God has called us to be.
 - Be faithful enough to stand even if you have to stand alone.
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- The women at the tomb were servant leaders who had a heart to serve, and were faithful and loyal and demonstrated their love to Jesus?
 - What is our story?



GOD
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BE FAITHFUL

Have the Heart of a Servant



Have the Heart of a Servant

Our faith in Jesus should stand the test of time even when we are persecuted because of Him.

It is more important to serve than to be served.

When we serve others we are empowered by God.

When we are loyal to Jesus, we can grow in our faith in Him and be His witnesses on earth of the wonderful things He has done for us. The women at the tomb teach us that we can hold on to Jesus for life because He gave His life for us.

Fear Not

The reference to not fear that was spoken of at the tomb was not a paralyzing fear, this is not a scared to death fear, this is not even an anxiety type of fear. The “fear not” that the angel refers to here is a comforting, hopeful, “everything is going to be alright” state of being because Jesus has done just as He said he would. And now he goes before you preparing the way so that you can have eternal life. This message of hope and assurance served not only to the women who were at the tomb but it was for all who believed in him that he had risen from the dead just as he said he would. But let’s also see this as confirmation of a message that God purposed a place and a purpose for women and he entrusted them to carry the first gospel message that “He Lives”.