

# John 20:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre.

## Analysis

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**Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple**—John pairs the two throughout his Gospel, contrasting Peter's impulsive boldness with the beloved disciple's reflective insight. The particle 'therefore' (οὖν, oun) shows this is response to Mary's report, not independent investigation.

The simple narrative—no theological commentary yet—builds dramatic tension. John's Gospel excels at showing before explaining (cf. 2:22, 12:16). **Came to the sepulchre** (ῆρχοντο εἰς τὸ μνῆμεῖον, ērchonto eis to mnēmeion)—the imperfect tense suggests ongoing action: 'they were coming,' emphasizing the journey's suspense.

## Historical Context

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The Garden Tomb location, if accurate, was only 10-15 minutes from the upper room area. Rock-cut tombs outside city walls were standard for wealthy burials (Joseph of Arimathea provided this tomb, 19:38-41). Running to a tomb would have drawn attention, but the early hour and recent Passover crowds may have provided cover.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. Why does John include seemingly mundane details like 'they came to the sepulchre' in resurrection narrative?
2. What does the immediate, unquestioning response of both disciples reveal about their relationship with Mary and her credibility?
3. How does the pairing of different personality types (Peter and John) strengthen the witness to resurrection?

## Interlinear Text

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Ἐξῆλθεν οὖν ὁ Πέτρος καὶ ὁ ἄλλος μαθητής  
went forth therefore G3588 Peter and G3588 that other G3101 disciple  
G1831 G3767 G4074 G2532 G243 G3101

καὶ ἤρχοντο εἰς τὸ μνημεῖον  
and came to the sepulchre  
G2532 G2064 G3588 G1519 G3419

## Additional Cross-References

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**Luke 24:12** (References Peter): Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.