

Mark 16:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.

Analysis

She went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept (ἐκείνη πορευθεῖσα ἀπήγγειλεν τοῖς μετ' αὐτοῦ γενομένοις πενθοῦσι καὶ κλαίουσιν, ekeinē poreutheisa apēngeilen tois met' autou genomenois penthousi kai klaiousin)—verses 9-20 form the "longer ending," debated textually but canonical. Mary Magdalene (ἐκείνη, emphatic "she herself") becomes the apostle to the apostles. The disciples' **mourning and weeping** (πενθοῦσι, pentheo—deep grief; κλαίουσιν, klaio—loud lamentation) shows their hope had died with Jesus.

This verse highlights the reversal: the woman once possessed by seven demons (Luke 8:2) now carries the message of salvation to Jesus' inner circle. Their grief, though natural, blinded them to resurrection possibility. We too can be so absorbed in present loss that we cannot hear good news standing before us.

Historical Context

Mary Magdalene's prominence in resurrection accounts (all four gospels) is extraordinary given women's marginalized status. That the early church preserved female testimony despite its cultural liability argues for historical authenticity—no one inventing the story would make women the first witnesses. Her report to "those who had been with him" emphasizes the disciples' intimate past relationship now shattered by grief.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does Mary's transformation from demon-possessed to primary witness display redemptive grace?
2. What "mourning and weeping" in your life makes you unable to hear or believe resurrection news?
3. Why is persistent grief after Christ's resurrection incompatible with Christian faith (1 Thessalonians 4:13)?

Interlinear Text

ἐκείνη πορευθεῖσα ἀπήγγειλεν τοῖς μετ' αὐτοῦ
And she **went** **and told** G3588 **with** **him**
G1565 G4198 G518 G3326 G846

γενομένοις πενθοῦσιν καὶ κλαίουσιν·
them that had been **as they mourned** **and** **wept**
G1096 G3996 G2532 G2799

Additional Cross-References

Mark 14:72 (Parallel theme): And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept.

Matthew 9:15 (Parallel theme): And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast.

John 16:6 (Parallel theme): But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart.

John 20:18 (Parallel theme): Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken these things unto her.

Luke 24:17 (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?