

Rest For A Weary Soul Daily Devotional - Thursday, October 9, 2008

Praise the Lord and Good Evening,

Mary Magdalene's experience of seeing Jesus came so unexpectedly to her. She'd gone to the tomb expecting to see Jesus' lifeless body only to find the stone moved and his body gone. She ran and retrieved Peter and John. They too saw the empty tomb, folded grave clothes and napkin. They left. Mary stayed and wept. By the time she left the gravesite she was a different woman. She'd seen and spoken with Jesus. She knew He was alive. No matter whether the disciples believed it or not, she knew! There's nothing like experiencing the Lord for yourself.

The Lord is so good that He can turn your sorrow into joy by revealing Himself to us! I'm sure Mary never expected to walk away from the tomb with such a testimony! I've learned the Lord is able to give us joy in the situation, that, from its very nature, appears to be filled with nothing but sorrow. The Lord walked into her sorrow and brought joy! Jesus sent Mary running to the disciples again, this time with good news! Sorrow? What sorrow? It had been dealt a crushing blow. Have you been there? Have you felt the Lord turn your mourning into dancing? Have you started out thinking this is a horrific place to be in only to experience a move of God that utterly shattered your sorrow and brought joy on top of joy?

The Lord is still in the transforming business. He transformed Mary from a weeping woman to a woman spreading good news! She went in with mourning on her mind and left with an experience that forever changed the lives of the disciples. The places we are in are no different. The Lord specializes in changing lives even in the places we recognize only as places of sorrow.

11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, and looked into the sepulchre. 16. Jesus saith unto her, **Mary**. She turned herself, and saith unot him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. (John 20:11 and 16 KJV)

For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning. (Psalm 30:5 KJV)

In the Master's Service,

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Matt 11:28-29 **Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.