

# The Incredible Hope

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: John 20:1-18.

B. The resurrection began with despair before the hope came.

## II. Mary announced to the disciples that the Lord's body was stolen and Peter and John went to confirm it.

A. The shroud that Peter and John saw could not have been the Shroud of Turin because Jesus was wrapped in stripped cloths.

B. John did not believe that Jesus had risen from the dead—he believed that Mary was right.

## III. Jesus' encounter with Mary.

A. The angels suggested to Mary that this was not a time for weeping and she should have known this because He promised He would rise from the dead.

B. We quickly forget the promises of God.

C. All Jesus needed to do was call out Mary's name and she responded to Him.

D. Jesus told Mary that she should not cling to Him for He had not ascended to the Father yet.

1. Jesus makes a distinction between His Father and theirs.

2. It was the same God, but they did not have the same relationship.

3. Jesus was saying that a new relationship had come into being—He would indwell them through the Spirit.

E. The good news of Easter is that Jesus is back again.

F. Jesus is with us for constant companionship and strengthening.

## Application questions:

1. Describe the events of the resurrection. What stands out to you personally?

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2. What is the new relationship that Jesus is able to offer because of the resurrection?

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3. How has Jesus been a comfort or strength to you when you were in need? Why is His indwelling so integral to the Christian life?

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