



BOOK *of* JOHN

# ***A BRAND NEW DAY***

## ***JOHN 20:1-17***

If the Gospel of John were nothing more than an ordinary biography, there would be no **Chapter 20**.

- Biographies almost always conclude with the death and burial of the subject . . . the end.
- I have only read one that describes the subject's resurrection from the dead! No other exists that has been verified by thousands of eyewitness accounts.
- And millions more died horrible deaths for simply confirming that Jesus is alive!

## ***JESUS IS ALIVE TODAY***

- John continues his account and shared the excitement of the resurrection miracle as proof that Jesus Christ is not like any other man; He is Immanuel—God with us.
- The Resurrection is an essential to the Gospel message (**1 Cor. 15:1-8**) and a key doctrine in the Christian faith.
- Jesus Christ is not only the Savior, but He is also the Sanctifier (**Rom. 6:4-10**) and the Intercessor (**Rom. 8:34**). One day He will return as Judge (**Acts 17:30-31**).
- Jesus was seen alive by thousands of eyewitnesses.

## ***TESTIMONY OF THE EVANGELISTS***

- ***“The Testimony of the Evangelists Examined by the Rules of Evidence Administered in Courts of Justice,”*** or simply ***“The Testimony of the Evangelists,”*** is an 1846 work by Simon Greenleaf, a founder of the Harvard School of Law.
- His 3-volume set, ***“A Treatise on the Law of Evidence,”*** 1842-1853, forms the basis for his study of the Gospels. Greenleaf came to the conclusion that the witnesses were reliable, forthright, and accurate.
- The evidence concludes that the resurrection occurred.

## ***REAL FAITH IS ALWAYS TESTED v. 1-2***

The women left Jesus' tomb and carried the angel's message to the other disciples.

- It is significant that the first witnesses of the resurrection of Christ were believing women like Mary, as the testimony of women was not received as valid by the rabbis who upheld the Law.
- Mary had a greater message than that of the Law; hers was grace; she knew that their Savior was alive.
- Mary's faith was not extinguished; it was being tested.

## ***REAL FAITH RUNS TO THE TRUTH v. 3-10***

- Peter and John deserve credit for having the faith to run into enemy territory, not knowing what awaited them.
- When John ran to the tomb and looked at the evidence, *“he saw and believed.”*
- They ran to the Word—both the Old Testament and the New Testament agree in their witness. The Law, the Psalms, the prophets, and the apostles together bear witness that Jesus Christ is alive! **Psalm 2:7, 16:8-11, 110:1; Isaiah 53:10**

## ***REAL FAITH OVERCOMES DARKNESS AND DOUBT v. 11-17***

- Sadly, for just a while longer, Mary still thought that Jesus was dead. Doubt had darkened her mind.
- Jesus knew that Mary's heart was broken and that her mind was confused; Jesus did not rebuke her.
- Mary had been weeping and seeing Jesus had turned her sorrow into joy. ***IT WAS A BRAND NEW DAY.***
- Faith is not blind belief, it is *“the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”* **Heb. 11:1**

## ***EVIDENCE THAT DOES NOT LEAD TO EXPERIENCE IS NOTHING BUT DEAD DOGMA***

It is one thing to accept a doctrine and even defend it; it is something else to have a personal relationship with the risen living Christ by real saving faith.

- Historical faith says, “Christ lives!”
- Saving faith says, “Christ lives *in me!*”

Do you have real saving faith? If so, every day is a  
***BRAND NEW DAY IN JESUS.***