

MARY OF MAGDALA

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All references to Mary Magdalene in the New Testament:

The Synoptic Gospels (Mark, Matthew, Luke):

The Ministering Women – Luke 8:2

Witnesses of the Crucifixion – Mark 15:40; Matt 27:56

The Burial of Jesus – Mark 15:47; Matt 27:61

The Women at the Empty Tomb – Mark 16:1; Matt 28:1; Luke 24:10

[Jesus Appears to the Women – Mark 16:9] – *in the Markan Appendix;*
not part of the original Gospel of Mark

The Fourth Gospel (John):

The Crucifixion – John 19:25

The Empty Tomb – John 20:1

The First Easter Christophany – John 20:11-18, esp. vv 11, 16, 18

Note: All but one of the references to Mary Magdalene are in the Passion and Resurrection Narratives.

The following passages are from:

Synopsis of the Four Gospels, ed. Kurt Aland. 4th/5th ed. New York: American Bible Society, 1980/1982.
English translation: Revised Standard Version (RSV).

The Ministering Women

Luke 8.1-3

¹Soon afterward he went on through cities and villages,

preaching and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. And the twelve were with him, ²and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, ³and Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna, and many others, who provided for them out of their means.

ministered to

THE PASSION NARRATIVE

Witnesses of the Crucifixion

Matt. 27.55-56

⁵⁵There were also many women there, looking on from afar, who had followed Jesus from Galilee, ministering to him; ⁵⁶among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the sons of Zebedee.

Mark 15.40-41

⁴⁰There were also women looking on from afar, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome, ⁴¹who, when he was in Galilee, followed him, and ministered to him; and also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

Luke 23.49

⁴⁹And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance and saw these things.

John 19.25-27

²⁵So the soldiers did this. But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother, and the disciple whom he loved standing near, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son!" ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

The Burial of Jesus

Matt. 27.57-61	Mark 15.42-47	Luke 23.50-56	John 19.38-42
<p>⁵⁷When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus.</p>	<p>⁴²And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God,</p>	<p>⁵⁰Now there was a man named Joseph from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, ⁵¹who had not consented to their purpose and deed, and he was looking for the kingdom of God.</p>	<p>³⁸After this Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus,</p>
<p>⁵⁸He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him.</p>	<p>and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. ⁴⁵And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph.</p>	<p>⁵²This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.</p>	<p>and Pilate gave him leave. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹Nicodemus also, who had at first come to him by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds' weight.</p>
<p>⁵⁹And Joseph took the body, and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud, ⁶⁰and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn in the rock; and he rolled a great stone to the door of the tomb, and departed.</p>	<p>⁴⁶And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.</p>	<p>⁵³Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud, and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb, where no one had ever yet been laid.</p>	<p>⁴⁰They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb where no one had ever been laid. ⁴²So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, as the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.</p>
<p>⁶¹<u>Mary Magdalene</u> and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the sepulchre.</p>	<p>⁴⁷<u>Mary Magdalene</u> and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.</p>	<p>⁵⁵The women who had come with him from Galilee followed, and saw the tomb, and how his body was laid;</p>	<p>⁵⁶then they returned, and prepared spices and ointments. On the sabbath they rested according to the commandment.</p>

THE RESURRECTION

The Women at the Tomb

Matt. 28. 1-8	Mark 16. 1-8	Luke 24. 1-12	John 20. 1-10
<p>¹Now after the sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, <u>Mary Magdalene</u> and the other Mary went to see the sepulchre.</p>	<p>¹And when the sabbath was past, <u>Mary Magdalene</u>, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices; so that they might go and anoint him.</p>	<p>¹ But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices which they had prepared.</p>	<p>¹ Now on the first day of the week <u>Mary Magdalene</u> came to the tomb early, while it was still dark,</p>
<p>²And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone, and sat upon it.</p>	<p>²And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen.</p>	<p>²And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb,</p>	<p>and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.</p>
<p>³His appearance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow. ⁴And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men.</p>	<p>³And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" ⁴And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large.</p>	<p>³but when they went in they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them</p>	<p>and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.</p>
<p>⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.</p>	<p>⁵And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side,</p>	<p>in dazzling apparel; ⁵and as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground,</p>	<p>and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.</p>
<p>⁶He is not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.</p>	<p>dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed.</p>	<p>the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?"</p>	<p>and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.</p>
<p>⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. Lo, I have told you."</p>	<p>⁶And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him.</p>	<p>[He is not here, but has risen.] ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified,</p>	<p>and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.</p>
<p>⁸So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy,</p>	<p>⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you."</p>	<p>and on the third day rise." ⁸And they remembered his words,</p>	<p>and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.</p>
<p>and ran to tell his disciples.</p>	<p>⁸And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to any one, for they were afraid.</p>	<p>⁹and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.</p>	<p>and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.</p>

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[Luke 24. 1-12]

[John 20. 1-10]

¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told this to the apostles;
¹¹but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.
¹²But Peter rose and ran to the tomb;

²So she ran,

and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."

³Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. ⁴They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; ⁵and

stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves,

and he went home wondering at what had happened.]

stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying, ⁷and the napkin, which had been on his head, not lying with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not know the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Jesus Appears to the Women

Matt. 28.9-10

⁹And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Hail!"

And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.
¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Mark 16.9-11

*Markan Appendix.
Not part of
original Mark.*

⁹Now when he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons.

¹⁰She went and told those who had been with him, as they mourned and wept.
¹¹But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.]

John 20. 11-18

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet.

¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him."

¹⁴Saying this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and said to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The following passage is from:

The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha, ed. Bruce M. Metzger and Roland E. Murphy.

New York: Oxford University Press, 1991.

English translation: New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

JOHN 20

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

brothers = generic