

## I Come to the Garden Alone; John 20:11-16

### I. The Voice of Jesus

- a. "And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses"
- b. Our text has Mary at the grave for the second time (after she saw the open tomb and ran back to tell the disciples)
  - i. Peter and John raced back and witnessed the empty tomb
  - ii. Mary went back as well, and in verse 11, she is weeping outside the tomb
  - iii. Her first interaction with Jesus does not give away who He is; she supposes Him to be the gardener
  - iv. John 20:16 (ESV) 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned and said to him in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher).
  - v. Recognizing that familiar voice brought her comfort, "Rabboni!"
  - vi. Mary was troubled, in distress at the empty tomb
  - vii. She was trying to fulfill the burial practices of the Jews and found the body missing
  - viii. Mark 16:8 (ESV) 8 And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.
  - ix. Matthew 28:8–10 (ESV) 8 So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."
  - x. The voice of Jesus changed Mary from distraught to joyful
  - xi. John 20:18 (ESV) 18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord" —and that he had said these things to her.
- c. Similarly, the voice of Jesus comforts His disciples
  - i. I am not talking about just the words in Red (of Jesus)
  - ii. 2 Peter 1:19–21 (ESV) 19 And we have the prophetic word more fully confirmed, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20 knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21 For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.
  - iii. We have all read the pamphlets that have a list of verses designed to bring comfort in different situations
  - iv. God wants us to give others the comfort He has given us
  - v. 2 Corinthians 1:3–5 (ESV) 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort

those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 5 For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too.

- vi. When we are hurting, we turn to the Scriptures to find words of comfort
- vii. When we are comforting those who are hurting, we turn to the word of God; maybe even the very words that brought us comfort in our time of need
- d. As the words of Jesus comforted Mary, the word of God (the Holy Spirit) brings us comfort as well
- e. "And He walks with me, and He talks with me"

## II. The Melody of Jesus

- a. "And the melody that He gave to me, within my heart is ringing"
- b. Salvation and victory
  - i. Philippians 4:4–7 (ESV) 4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
  - ii. In a world full of pain, tragedy, heartache, sin, and death, only the melody of Jesus can bring us peace
  - iii. The sweet song of salvation rings in our ears amid our trials
  - iv. John probably wrote (1st, 2nd, and 3rd John) during his exile on Patmos during the reign of Domitian
  - v. 1 John combats false teaching that Jesus was not incarnate, that He was not fully human
  - vi. Christians had a lot to be fearful of in the latter part of the 1st Century
  - vii. 1 John 5:13 (ESV) 13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life.
  - viii. 1 John 5:4–5 (ESV) 4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. 5 Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
- c. The melody of Jesus sings to us, reminding us of our victory in Jesus!
- d. "And He tells me I am His own"

## III. The Calling of Jesus

- a. "He bids me go through the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling"
- b. Our 'calling' can be such a confusing thing
  - i. Am I supposed to preach, or maybe to teach, or to be a missionary?
  - ii. Our 'calling' is straightforward, share the message of hope and salvation to all
  - iii. Matthew 28:19–20 (ESV) 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and

of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- iv. Romans 10:14–15 (ESV) 14 How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? 15 And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"
- v. 2 Timothy 2:1–2 (ESV) 1 You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, 2 and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.
- c. We share the voice of Jesus
- d. We sing the melody of the Gospel
- e. "And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known"