

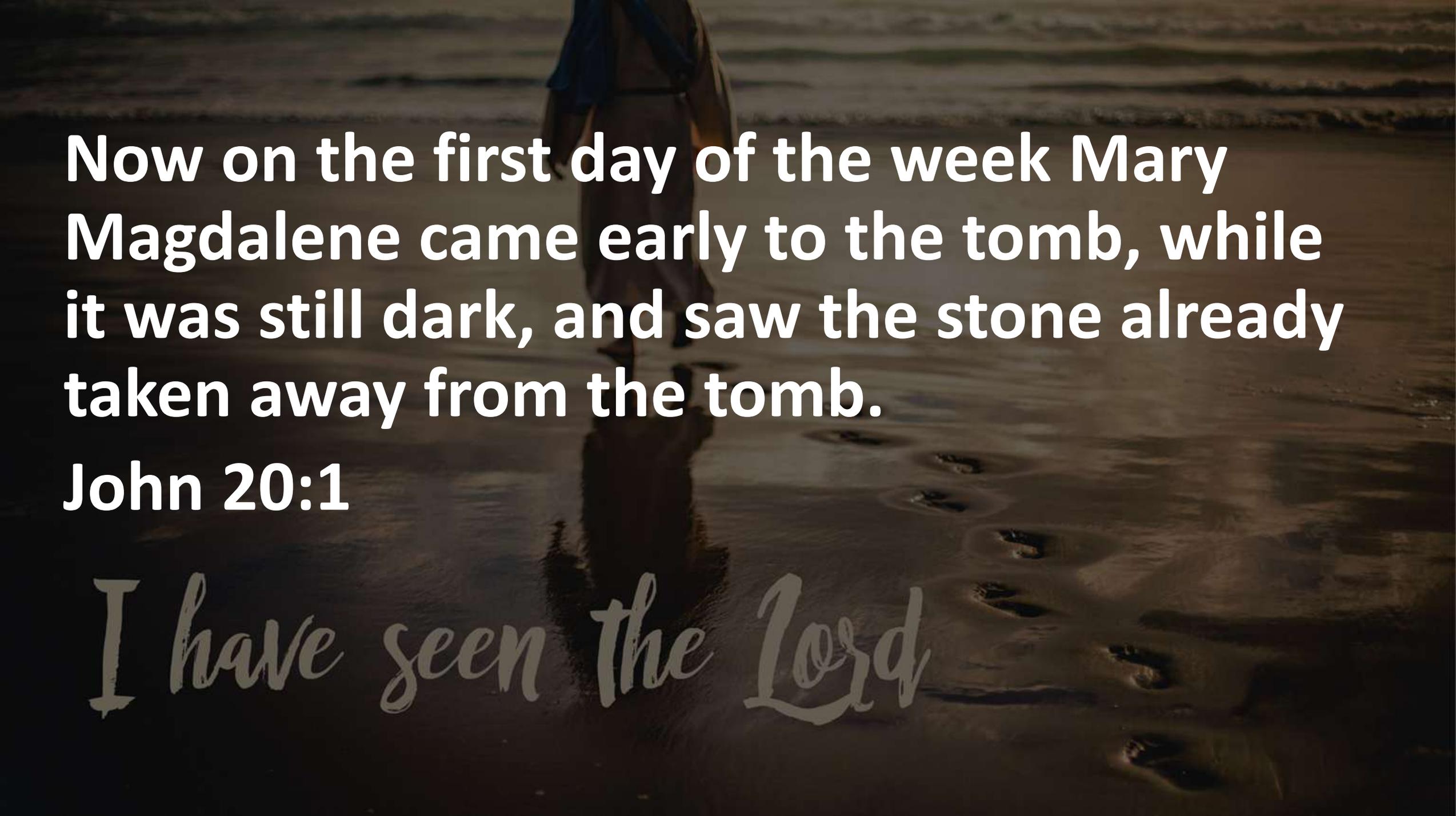
A person wearing a long, light-colored robe and a blue head covering is walking away from the camera on a wet beach. The sand is dark and reflective, showing a clear reflection of the person. The ocean waves are visible in the background, and the sky is a warm, golden color, suggesting sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

I have seen the Lord

A person wearing a long, light-colored dress and a blue shawl is walking away from the camera on a beach at sunset. The sand is wet, reflecting the person and the sky. A series of footprints leads from the person towards the water in the distance. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

John 20

I have seen the Lord

A person is walking away from the camera on a beach at sunset. The person is wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. The sand is wet, and there are several footprints visible in the foreground. The background shows the ocean with waves and a sunset sky.

**Now on the first day of the week Mary
Magdalene came early to the tomb, while
it was still dark, and saw the stone already
taken away from the tomb.**

John 20:1

I have seen the Lord

Who was Mary Magdalene?

Soon afterwards, He began going around from one city and village to another, proclaiming and preaching the kingdom of God. The twelve were with Him, and also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and sicknesses: **Mary who was called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out...** Luke 8:1-2

Galilee in the Days of Jesus



the Lord

Who was Mary Magdalene?

But standing by the cross of Jesus were His mother, and His mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. John 19:25

I have seen The Lord



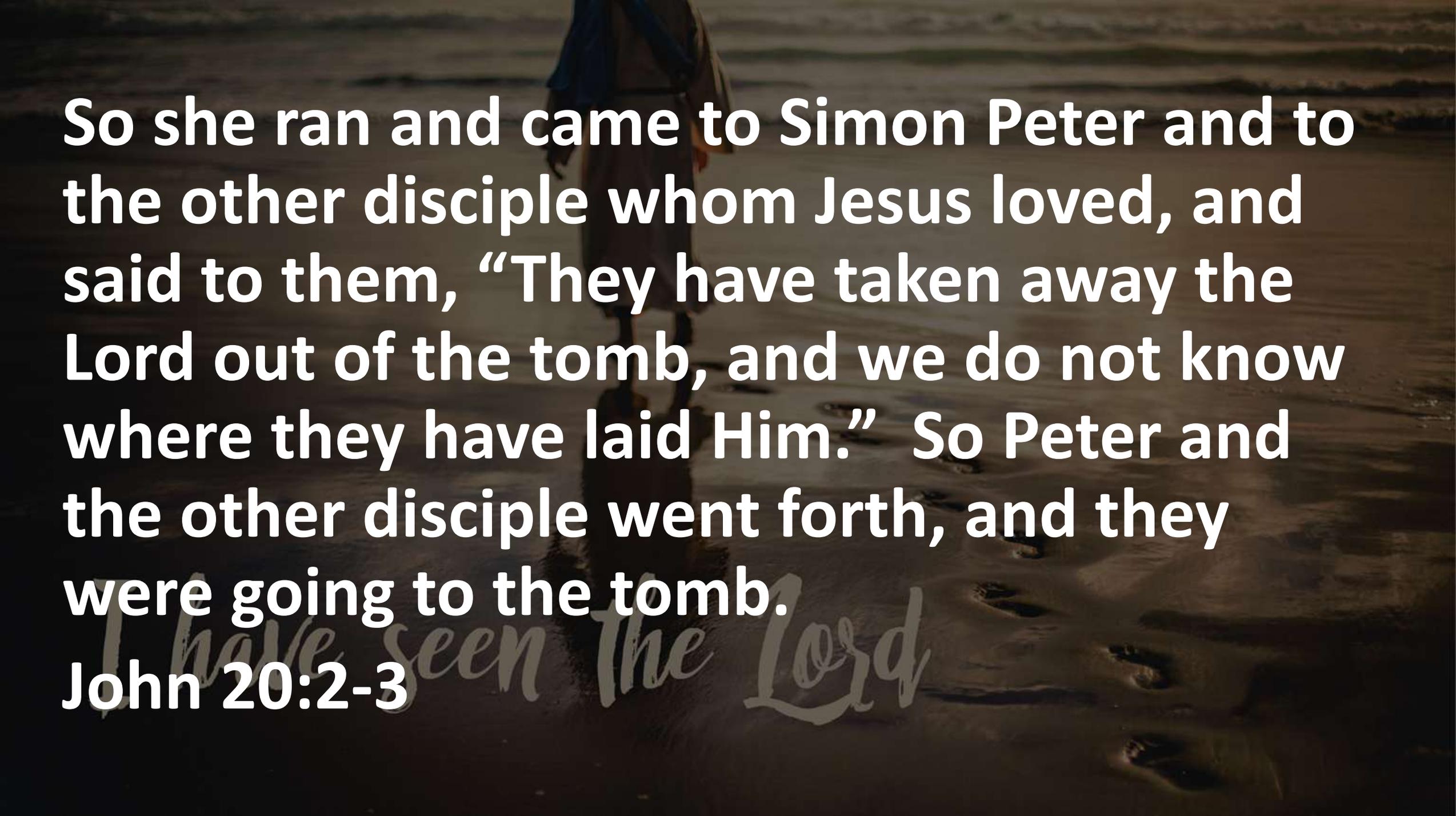
© © Fred de Noyelle/Godong/Corbis

Who was Mary Magdalene NOT?

Mary Magdalene has been associated with the "woman in the city who was a sinner" (Luke 7:37) who washed Jesus' feet, but there is no scriptural basis for this. The city of Magdala did have a reputation for prostitution. This information, coupled with the fact that Luke first mentions Mary Magdalene immediately following his account of the sinful woman (Luke 7:36-50), has led some to equate the two women. But there is no scriptural evidence to support this idea. Mary Magdalene is nowhere identified as a prostitute or as a sinful woman, despite popular portrayals of her as such.

Mary Magdalene is also often associated with the woman whom Jesus saved from stoning after she had been taken in adultery (John 8:1-11). But again this is an association with no evidence. The movie "The Passion of the Christ" made this connection. This view is possible, but not likely and certainly not taught in the Bible.

The fiction novel "The DaVinci Code" makes the claim that Jesus and Mary Magdalene were married. Some of the non-biblical early Christian writings (considered heresy by the early Christians) hint at a special relationship between Mary Magdalene and Jesus. However, there is no evidence to support the belief that Jesus and Mary Magdalene were married. <https://www.gotquestions.org/Mary-Magdalene.html>

A person in a dark coat is walking away from the camera on a sandy beach at sunset. The person's reflection is visible in the wet sand. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and dark blue. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

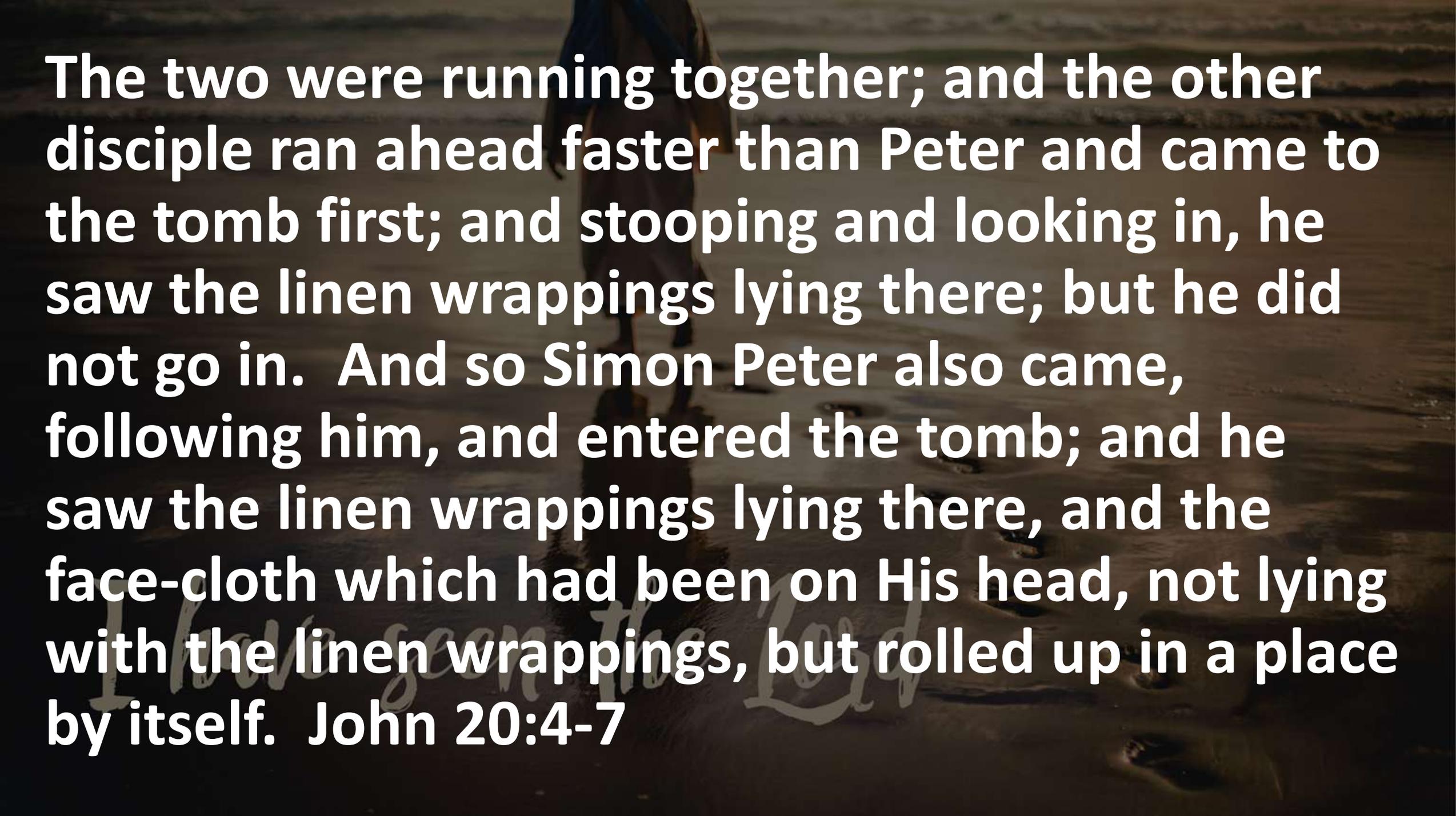
So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.” So Peter and the other disciple went forth, and they were going to the tomb.

John 20:2-3

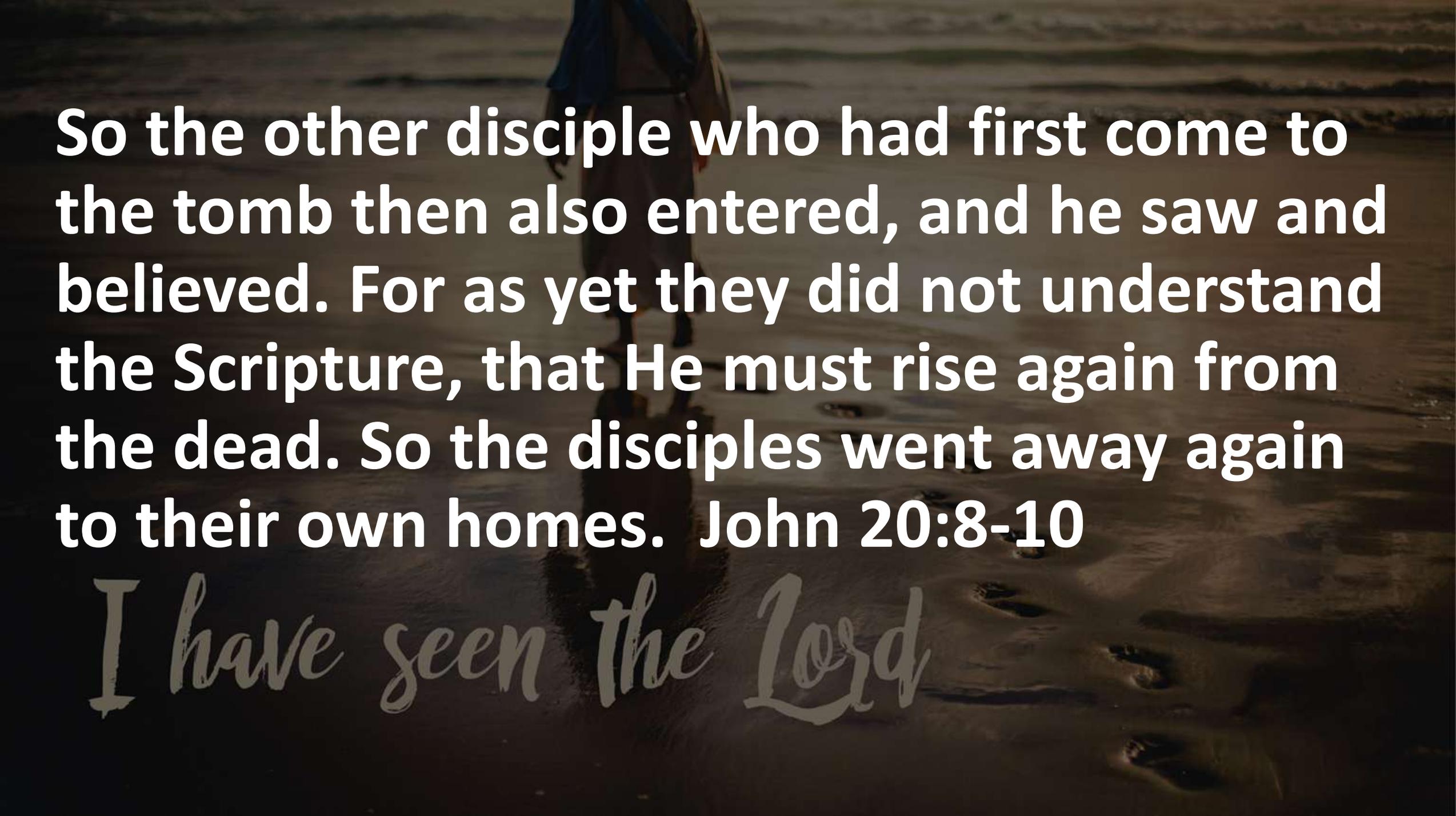
I have seen the Lord



I have seen th

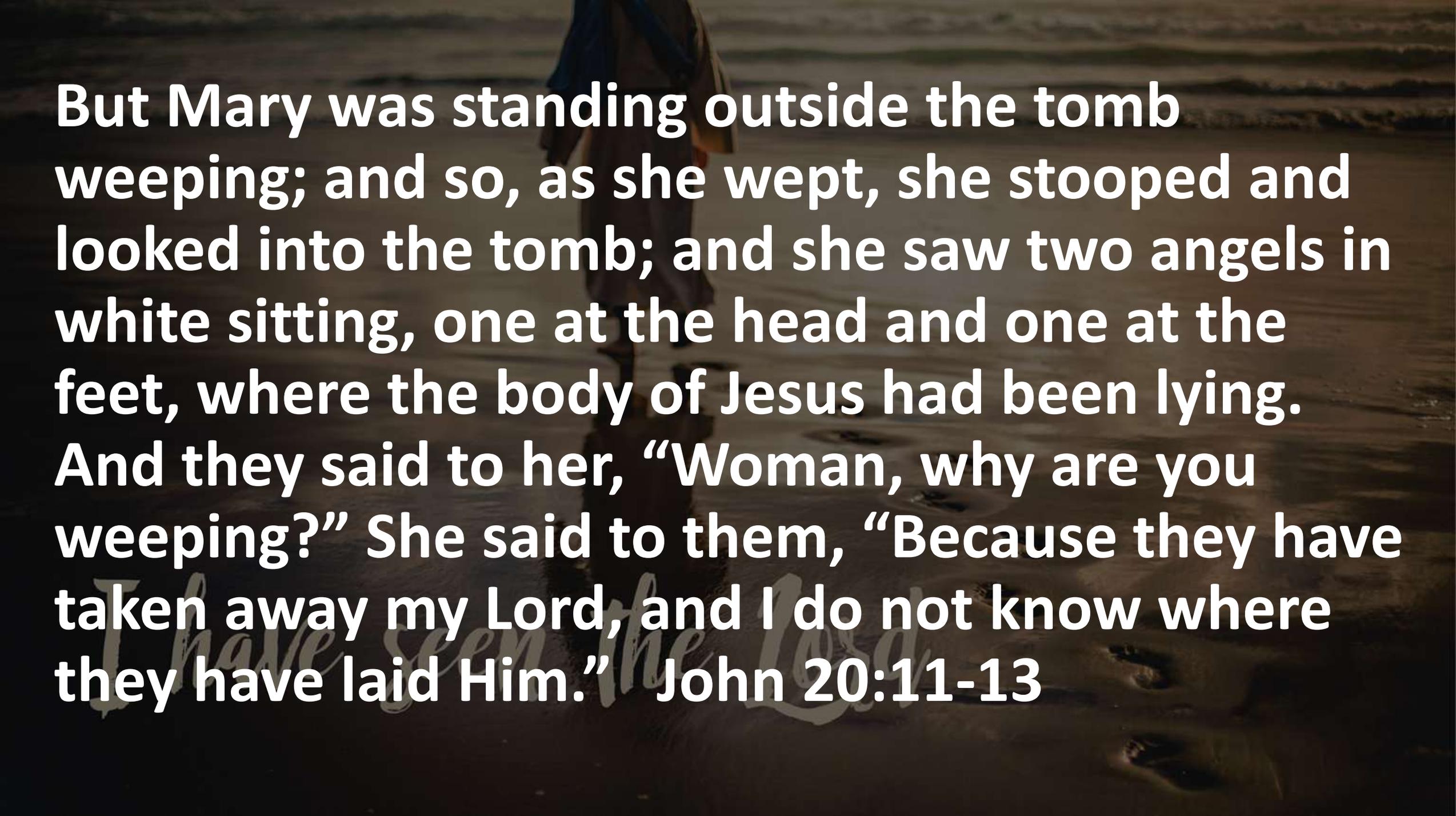
A person is walking away from the camera on a sandy beach at sunset. The person's reflection is visible in the shallow water on the sand. The background shows the ocean and a bright sunset sky. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first; and stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying there; but he did not go in. And so Simon Peter also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself. John 20:4-7

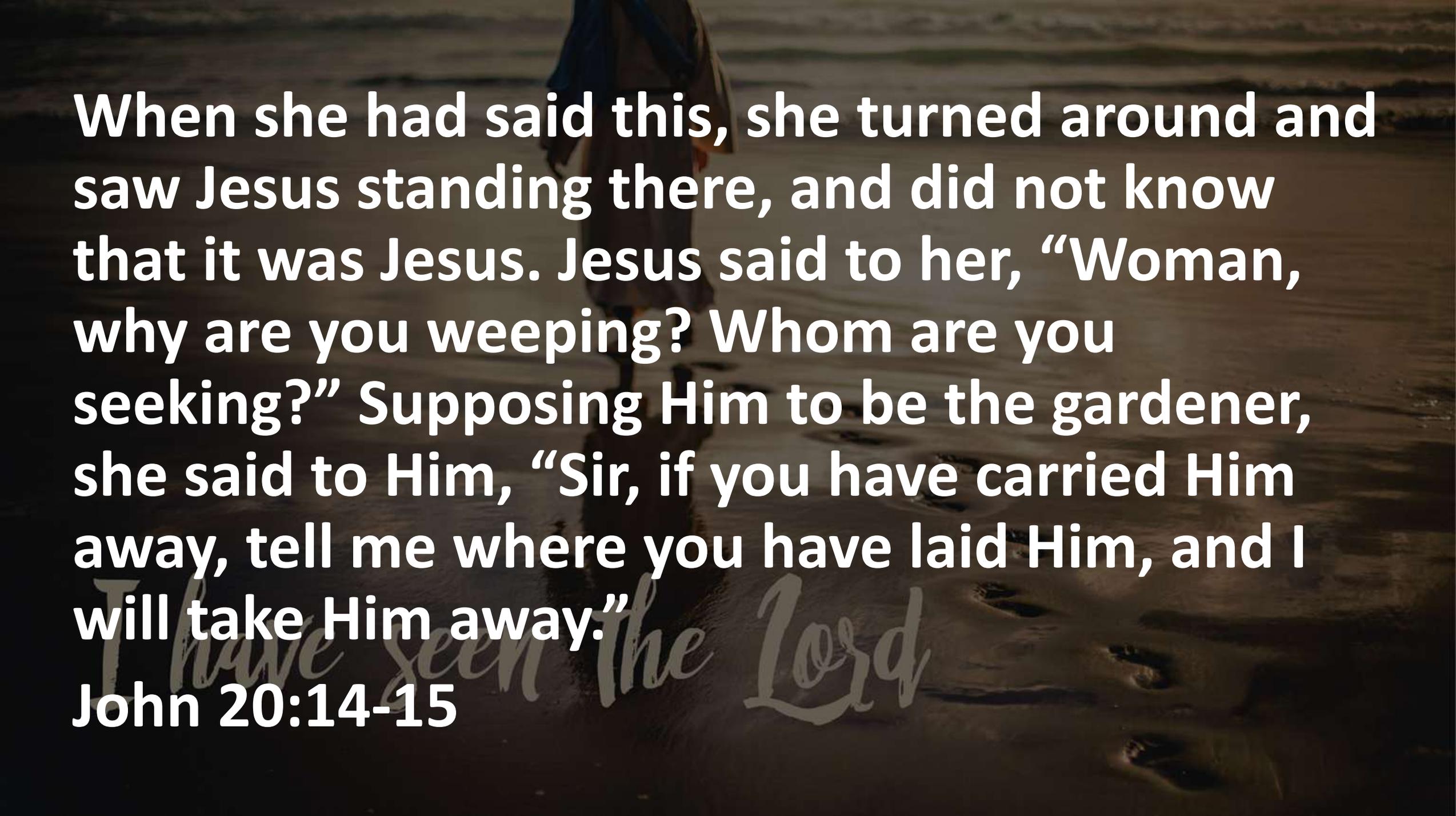
A person is walking away from the camera on a beach at sunset. The person is wearing a dark jacket and pants. The sand is wet, and the person's reflection is clearly visible in the shallow water on the sand. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, and the ocean is visible in the background. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. So the disciples went away again to their own homes. John 20:8-10

I have seen the Lord

A person is walking away from the camera on a sandy beach at sunset. The person is wearing a dark jacket and light-colored pants. The background shows the ocean and a bright, hazy sky. The text is overlaid in white, bold font.

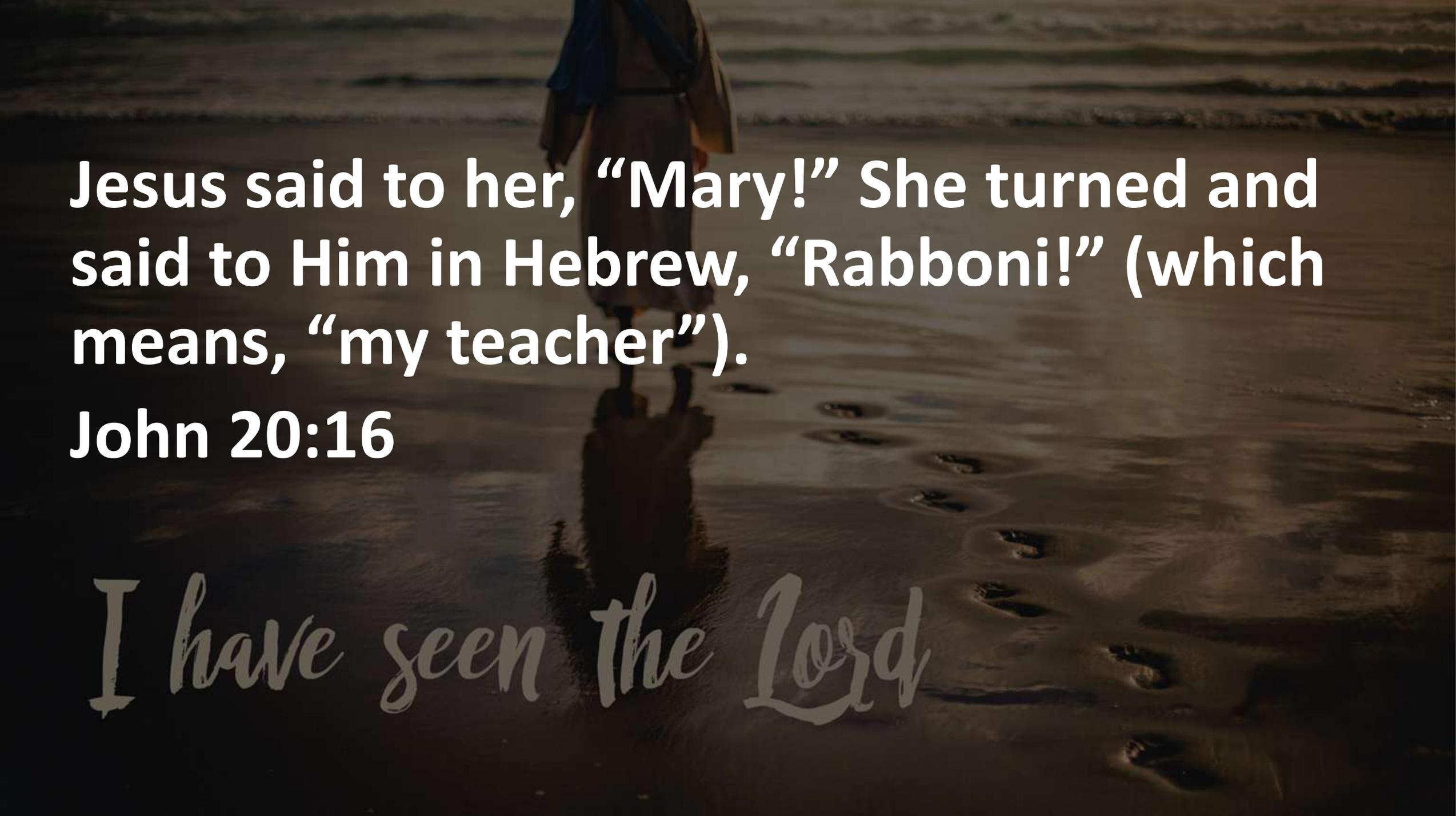
But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying. And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.” John 20:11-13

A person in a long, light-colored dress is walking away from the camera on a sandy beach. The scene is set at sunset or sunrise, with the sky and water reflecting the warm, golden light. The person's reflection is clearly visible in the shallow water on the sand. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” 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.”

I have seen the Lord

John 20:14-15

A person in a long, light-colored dress is walking away from the camera on a beach at sunset. The sand is wet, and the person's reflection is visible in the shallow water. The sky is a mix of orange and dark blue, and the ocean waves are visible in the background. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” (which means, “my teacher”).

John 20:16

I have seen the Lord

Did you know?

The appearance of Jesus to Mary was so unexpected that she did not realize that it was Jesus. The fact that He appeared to Mary rather than to Pilate or Caiaphas or to one of His disciples is significant. That a woman would be the first to see Him is an evidence of Jesus' electing love as well as a mark of the narrative's historicity. No Jewish author in the ancient world would have invented a story with a woman as the first witness to this most important event. Furthermore, Jesus may have introduced Himself to Mary first because she had so earnestly sought Him.

What About You?

- Can Jesus deliver you from your past?
- Can you begin again with the Savior?

At the empty tomb...

- Mary Magdalene expected one thing and got another
- She expected disappointment and got joy
- She expected loss and got victory
- She expected a dead Rabbi and got a living Savior
- She found what she was looking for (Messiah Jesus) but it was greater than she could have ever imagined

Now What?

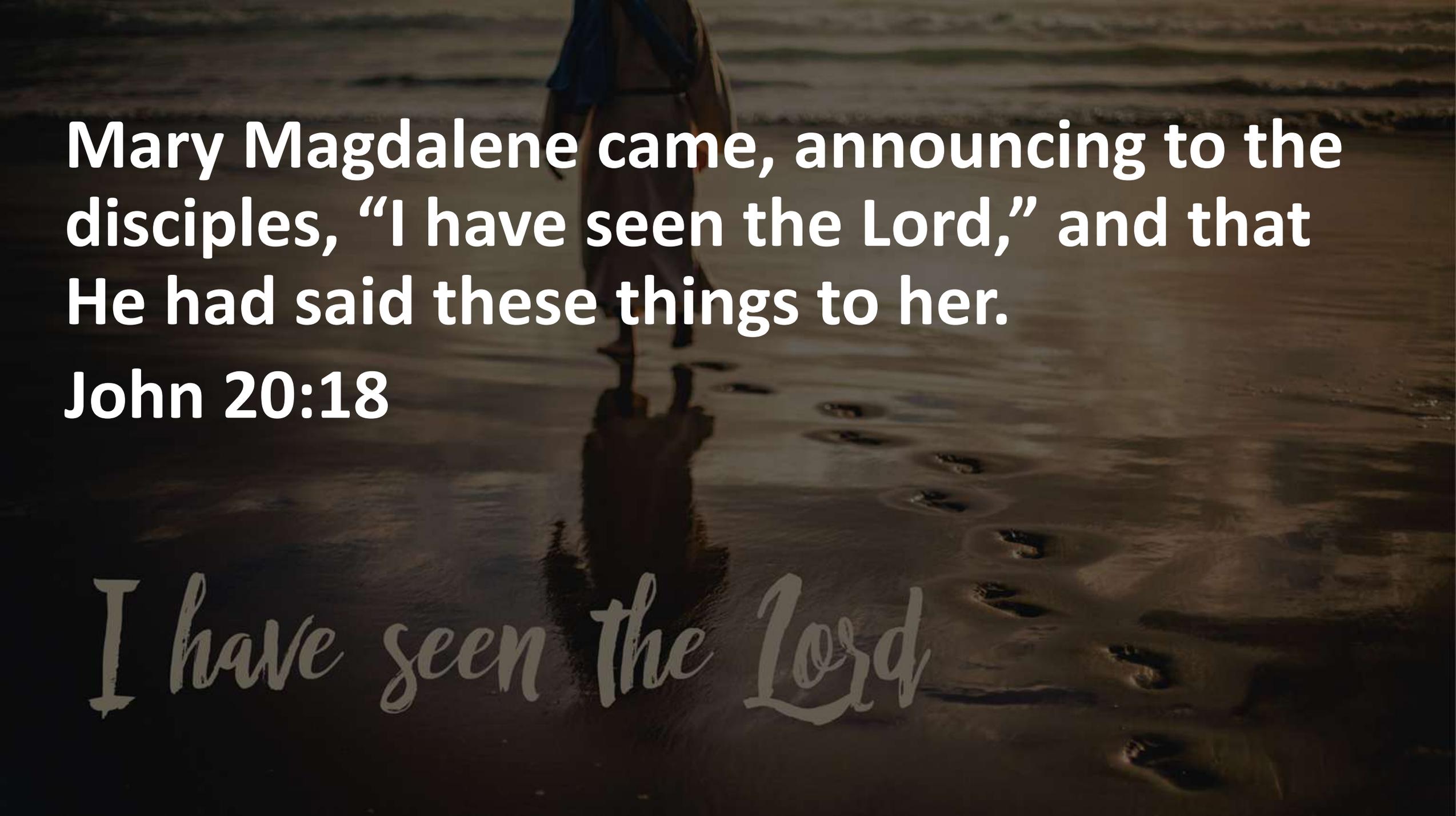
Jesus said to her, “Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.’ ” John 20:17 (NAS)

“Do not hold on to Me” (NIV)

“Don’t cling to Me” (HCSB)

Now What?

- Mary's new responsibility was to testify to His risen presence.
- She was the recipient of four special graces: to see angels; to see Jesus risen; to be the first to see Him alive; and to be a proclaimer of the good news.
- Christians today are also the recipients of special grace; they too are given this new responsibility to witness to the world (Matthew 28:16–20).

A person is walking away from the camera on a beach at sunset. The person is wearing a blue shirt and dark pants. The sand is wet, and the person's reflection is visible in the shallow water on the sand. The sky is dark, and the sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm, golden light. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and that He had said these things to her.

John 20:18

I have seen the Lord

“I have seen the Lord”

ὅτι ἑώρακε τὸν Κύριον

John 20:18

Definition:

1 to see with the eyes. 2 to see with the mind, to perceive, know. 3 to see, i.e. become acquainted with by experience, to experience.

A person can only say this:

- 1. After Jesus has been resurrected**
- 2. After they have met the Savior personally**

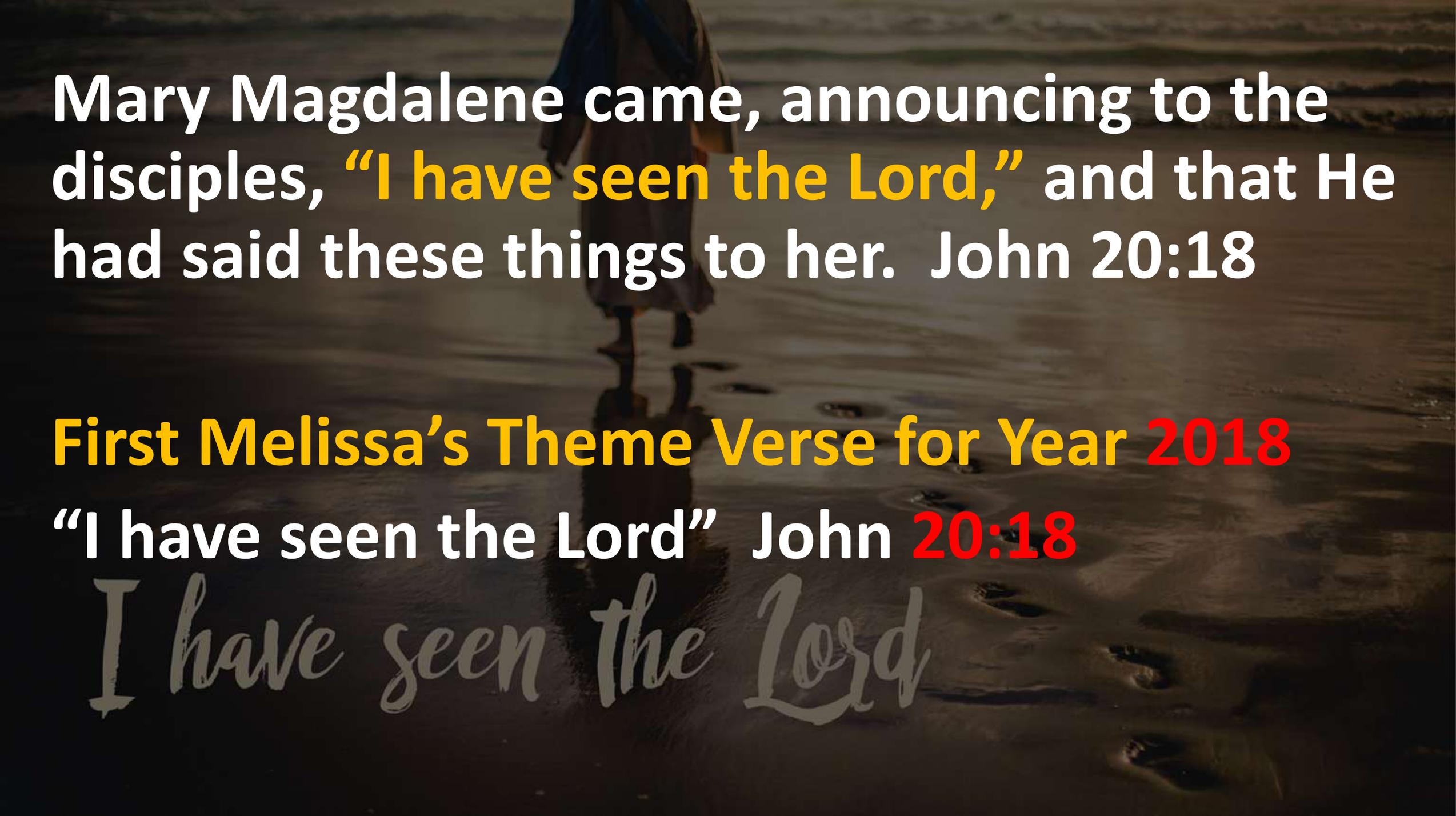
How Can I See The Lord?

In Matthew 5:8, Jesus said...

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.” (NAS)

“You’re blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.” (Message)

- “They shall see God” in the Greek is in **future indicative tense** and **middle voice**.
- Literal translation: “They shall be continuously seeing God for themselves.” (Source: John MacArthur)



Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, **“I have seen the Lord,”** and that He had said these things to her. John 20:18

First Melissa’s Theme Verse for Year 2018

“I have seen the Lord” John 20:18

I have seen the Lord

What About Us?

John 20:18 “I have seen the Lord”

- What happens when we have really seen the resurrected King?
- What are the results in our lives?
- How do we live after that moment?
- How do our goals change?
- How can I grow to know Jesus better this year?

I have seen the Lord

Spiritual Growth in 2018

- Make Sunday Worship Services your routine each week
- Join an Adult Small Group (on campus and in homes)
- DEEPER resumes this Wednesday at 6:30 pm (dinner at 5:30 pm)
- Prayer, Praise, Communion service on Wednesday, January 17
- 40 Days of FAITH begins Sunday, January 21... Hear His Voice
- DNOW for Students coming February 9-11
- Teaching trips to Israel in April and November
- Men's Ministry Huddles
- *The Gathering* for Women
- FM University begins March 21 on Wednesdays
- Summer camps for students and children, VBS for kids
- "FM 10" – daily devotional email



Our calling as disciples of Jesus in 2018

- Seek
- See
- Share

I have seen the Lord

Our calling as disciples of Jesus

- **Seek**

- Are you looking for Jesus in 2018?
- Do you desire to know God's will for your life?
- Is your daily priority to walk closer with the Savior?

- **See**

- **Share**

I have seen the Lord

Our calling as disciples of Jesus

- Seek

- See

- What are you looking for?

- Can you see God at work in your life? In this world?

- Do you know that Jesus died for you and is alive now?

- Share

I have seen the Lord

Our calling as disciples of Jesus

- Seek
- See
- **Share**
 - Say: “He is risen and He is ascending to heaven”
 - Tell: “My brethren”
 - “Those that are acquainted with the word of Christ themselves should communicate their knowledge for the good of others, and not grudge that others should know as much as they do.”

– Matthew Henry Commentary

Spiritual Truths for 2018

- Jesus is alive
- He was resurrected after He died on my behalf
- He rose again in victory
- He died to forgive me of sin and offer salvation
- I can meet the Lord Jesus personally
- I am called to tell others about my Savior
- I can see the Lord

I have seen the Lord

Pray these 18 things daily in 2018

Jesus, help me today to:

1. see the Lord
2. speak to the Lord
3. listen to the Lord
4. thank the Lord
5. obey the Lord
6. worship the Lord
7. confess my sins to the Lord
8. practically share the love of the Lord
9. love someone else as the Lord loves me
10. honor the Lord with my relationships
11. share the Lord's words with someone else
12. tell someone else about the Lord
13. experience the Lord's grace
14. rest in the Lord's mercy
15. honor the Lord with my time
16. honor the Lord with my money
17. honor the Lord with my thoughts
18. honor the Lord with my words

Our calling as disciples of Jesus in 2018

- Seek
- See
- Share

I have seen the Lord