



Mary of Magdala (Mary Magdalene)

be Faithful, be Bold, be Faithful

Biblical Readings: Luke 8:1-3, Luke 24:1-12, Matthew 28:1-10

Related Reading: The Gospel of Mary 4:1-11, 5:1-10, 6:1-4, 7:1-7, 10:1-15

In the Garden

1. I come to the garden alone,
While the dew is still on the roses,
And the voice I hear,
Falling on my ear,
The Son of God discloses.
 2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
And the melody
That he gave to me,
Within my heart is ringing.
- Refrain:
3. I'd stay in the garden with him
Though the night around me be falling,
But he bids me go;
Through the voice of woe
His voice to me is calling.
- And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
And he tells me I am his own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there,
None other has ever known.

Worship in Song: A Friends Hymnal, #121
Performed by Meryl Streep & Garrison Keillor

The Gospel of Mary (Berlin Codex 8502)

4¹When the Blessed One had said these things, he greeted them all. "Peace be with you!" he said. **2**²Acquire my peace within yourselves!"

3³"Be on your guard **4**⁴so that no one deceives you by saying, 'Look over here!' or 'Look over there!' **5**⁵For the child of true Humanity exists within you. **6**⁶Follow it! **7**⁷Those who search for it will find it.

8⁸"Go then, preach[h] the good news about the Realm. **9**⁹[Do] not lay down any rule beyond what I determined for you, **10**¹⁰nor promulgate law like the lawgiver, or else you might be dominated by it."

11¹¹After he had said these things, he departed from them.

5¹But they were distressed and wept greatly. **2**²"How are we going to go out to the rest of the world to announce the good news about the Realm of the child of true Humanity?" they said. **3**³"If they did not spare him, how will they spare us?"

4⁴Then Mary stood up. She greeted them all, addressing her brothers and sisters, **5**⁵"Do not weep and be distressed nor let your hearts be irresolute. **6**⁶For his grace will be with you all and will shelter you. **7**⁷Rather we should praise his greatness, **8**⁸for he has prepared us and made us true Human beings."

9⁹When Mary had said these things, she turned their heart [to]ward the Good, **10**¹⁰and they began to deba[t]e about the wor[d]s of [the Savior].

6¹Peter said to Mary, "Sister, we know that the Savior loved you more than all other women. **2**²Tell us the words of the Savior that you remember, the things which you know that we don't because we haven't heard them."

3³Mary responded, "I will teach you about what is hidden from you." **4**⁴And she began to speak these words to them.

7¹She said, “I saw the Lord in a vision ²and I said to him, ‘Lord, I saw you today in a vision.’

³He answered me, ‘How wonderful you are for not wavering at seeing me! ⁴For where the mind is, there is the treasure.’

⁵I said to him, ‘So now, Lord, does a person who sees a vision see it <with> the soul <or> with the spirit?’

⁶The Savior answered, ‘A person does not see with the soul or with the spirit. ⁷Rather the mind, which exists between these two, sees the vision an[d] that is w[hat...]’

10¹Andrew responded, addressing the brothers and sisters, “Say what you will about the things she has said, ²but I do not believe that the S[a]vior said these things, f[or] indeed these teachings are strange ideas.”

³Peter responded, bringing up similar concerns. He questioned them about the Savior: “Did he, then, speak with a woman in private without our knowing about it? ⁴Are we to turn around and listen to her? Did he choose her over us?

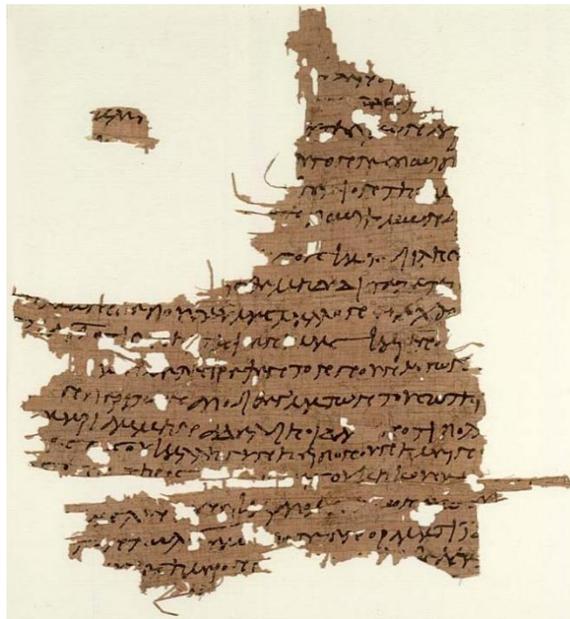
⁵Then [M]ary wept and said to Peter, “My brother Peter, what are you imagining? ⁶Do you think that I have thought up these things by myself in my heart or that I am telling lies about the Savior?”

⁷Levi answered, speaking to Peter, “Peter, you have always been a wrathful person. ⁸Now I see you contending against the woman like the Adversaries. ⁹For if the Savior made her worthy, who are you then for your part to reject her? ¹⁰Assuredly the Savior’s knowledge of her is completely reliable. That is why he loved her more than us.

¹¹”Rather we should be ashamed. We should clothe ourselves with the perfect Human, acquire it for ourselves as he commanded us, ¹²and announce the good news, ¹³not laying down any other rule or law that differs from what the Savior said.”

¹⁴After [he had said these] things, they started going out [to] teach and to preach.

¹⁵[The Gos]pel according to Mary.



More Resources:

Brock, Ann Graham, Mary Magdalene, the First Apostle: The Struggle for Authority, Harvard University Press, 2002.

King, Karen L., The Gospel of Mary of Magdala: Jesus and the First Woman Apostle. Polebridge Press, 2003.

Women in the Bible - http://www.womeninthebible.net/Mary_Magdalene_bible_text.htm

The Gospel of Jesus' Wife - <http://gospelofjesusswife.hds.harvard.edu/testing-indicates-gospel-jesus-wife-papyrus-fragment-be-ancient>