

**Scripture:** John 20:11-23

**Singing:** 172:1-4 – 185:1, 2-6 – 51:1-3 – 304:3, 4, 6, 7

Introduction: *Shame-filled disciples are ministered to by Jesus!*

A. We started without *shame* (Gen. 2:25) but became *ashamed* (Gen. 3:7-8)

B. Shame makes you want to hide (cover) and run (Gen. 3:7-8)

C. Mary Magdalene knew all about shame (Luke 8:2)

1. Details of her life are sketchy but suggestive

2. But Jesus rescued her by *coming into her life* (Gen. 3:9)

a. nothing conquers and delivers more than *unconditional love*

3. No wonder she is weeping and inconsolable (John 20:11-13)

a. 'forgiven and accepted' does not remove all baggage of past

b. for believers personal Easter is future (1 Cor. 15:51-57)

### The First Message of the Risen Lord

I. Stunning address II. The stunning content

#### I. The stunning address of Jesus' first message to His 11 disciples

A. The address of Jesus' message: *11 deeply ashamed men* (Mark 14:50)

1. Did they feel like hiding from Jesus?

2. Did they deserve a sternly rebuking message?

B. Jesus' message has a stunning address and tone: *to go my brethren!*

1. Jesus did not avoid them but sought them gently and lovingly

2. According to Heb 2:11, He is ***not ashamed*** to call them brethren

C. Beloved believers: *Do you hear what Jesus calls and speaks to **you**?*

1. Brethren, Peace be unto you! (vs. 19)

2. Also this 'truth' requires *faith to believe it!* (Romans 15:13)

## **II. His first message also includes a stunning revelation**

A. It is not *that God is **His and their Father & God***

B. Stunning is that *He is **ascending***

1. Twice before Jesus has referred to ascending (John 3:13; 6:62)

2. Though they did not yet taste the comfort of it, it is a cause for joy!

C. Stunning is that He ascending ***to His and their Father/God***

### **Two applications:**

A. Seekers of Jesus: *fail not to drink from this cup of Easter comfort*

B. Neglecters of Jesus: *fail not to note what you miss out on Easter*

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## **THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST**

The Christian Church has the resurrection written all over it.

Bless God that there is *in us* resurrection life  
And that there *awaits us* a resurrection to life. (J. Bonar)

God fits our souls here to possess a glorious body afterwards at our  
resurrection from the death. (R. Sibbes)

Those in Christ are surer to arise out of their graves  
than out of their beds. (T. Watson)