

4 Gospel Views of Jesus Resurrection [plus the earliest report: It's ONE Cor.]

We keep on reading and re-reading and pass out gospel parallels but hear this:

'Last year's words belong to last year's language

And next year's words await another voice." [T.S. Eliot Four Quartets: *Little Gidding*]

[People: Last year, we never imagined a President of the United States using the 'F-word' as Easter's 'first word'!]

Gospel of Mark 16:1-8: Women [3 named]! **'They were Afraid'** [v. 8 & Finis!] ... But let's read the words: **'Stop** being amazed!' **'Look...'** **'Go tell...** (and Peter!)' [Jesus] **'goes before** you unto **Galilee.**' It's back to Chapter 1: Good News. [we'll talk about Mark's readers/listeners: Mk. 4]

Gospel of Matthew 28:1-20: At the tomb: Women [2 but only 1 named] Earthquake! Conspiracy! But the 'don't be afraid' words again (mostly): **Come & See & Go** with fear and Joy (!) & JESUS (v.9) says Hello (!) ...announce to the brothers **Go** to Galilee & there **See!** ... They believed and doubted: To the Nations—the **Gentiles:** Matthew's community hears the words: **BREAK OUT!** [We'll talk about Matthew's readers/listeners]

I Corinthians 15: Paul tells the story: This is the 'unvarnished' report: but where are the women? [wait until Philippians!]

Gospel of Luke 1-52: Notice the differences—Women (un-named at first-lots? -then 3 named with 'others'-lots?) -2 men in 'dazzling clothing' – **Remember!** and then, the disciples think it's nonsense—but Peter heads out. O.K. It's Luke's own: **TWO** [& then three!] **for the Road!** [It's the graciousness, the grace upon grace of the story, but also: Jesus -the elder brother- as the nudge, the teaser!]

Gospel of John 20:1-31: Mary Magdalene Solo: First Preacher! **'Don't Touch'** and then **'Touch'**—in fact 'throw your hand in my side, Thomas!' & [final Beatitude!] **Blessed** are the ones who've not seen... (Come and See!). Postlude: 21:1-25 ['Come to Breakfast!']. *"I, a Captain of a Legion of Rome, serving in the desert of Libya, have learned and pondered this truth: There are in life but two things, Love and Power, and no one has both."* [quoted by Hugh Kingsmill and then Malcolm Muggeridge] NB: Pay attention to Jesus words to Peter—a.k.a. Captain of Rome

"Every child has known God—not the God of Names—not the God of Don'ts

But the God who only knows four words and keeps on repeating them:

'Come Dance with Me. Come Dance'". Hafiz (1320-1380 Persia IRAN) [& Breakfast!]

*"Now to him who by the power at work within **us** is able to accomplish **abundantly** far more than all we can ask or **imagine**, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen".* [Ephesians 3:20-21]