

**“They Have Taken
Away My Lord”**

John 20:2...13

Mary wrongly believed . . .

- Jesus was still dead and would stay dead
- Best she could do for Him: honor body
- “They” (enemies) had taken His body; their victory is complete
- Jesus is still “Lord” though death had conquered Him
- Jesus is “Lord” though everything He said was a lie (Jn.12; Mt.16)

John 20:2...13

Mary wrongly believed . . .

- Jesus was still dead and would stay dead
- Best she could do for Him was to bury Him
- “They” (enemies) had won; their victory is complete
- Jesus is dead though death had been conquered
- Jesus is “not Lord” though everything He said was a lie (Jn.12; Mt.16)

**In some ways, Jesus
has been taken away**

I. Literally –
His Father Took Him Away

His Father Took Him . . .

- From the tomb, Jn.20:15
- From the disciples, Jn.20:17 (16:10, 28)
- From earth to heaven, Jn.16:10; Ac.1

He reigns
from heaven

He
intercedes

He
Advocates

Next time, He will
take us, 1 Th.4:13-18

I. Literally – His Father Took Him Away

II. Historically –
Scholars Take Him Away

Only desperate, closed-minded people deny that Jesus lived

- Dawkins: Jesus is 'intelligent,' 'a great moral teacher'
- Ehrman: 'He certainly existed, as virtually every competent scholar of antiquity, Christian or non-Christian, agrees'

Only desperate, closed-minded people deny that Jesus lived

“We can no more reject Jesus’ existence than we can reject the existence of a mass of pagan personages whose reality as historical figures is never questioned. In recent years, no serious scholar has ventured to postulate the non historicity of Jesus, or at any rate very few, and they have not succeeded in disposing of the much stronger, indeed very abundant, evidence to the contrary” – Michael Grant

Unbelievers attack foundations

Some do all they can to minimize Jesus' influence. Jn.11:45-57

Today: covertly... Seminaries –

Deny
Genesis

Deny
Inerrancy

Deny
Morality

I. Literally – His Father Took Him Away

II. Historically – Scholars Take Him Away

III. Morally –
Unbelievers Take Him Away

Unbelievers attack foundations

Courthouses – Ten Commandments

Schools – Study Mohammed...

Textbooks – Whitewash Islam...

Why?

Bible
demands
morals

Bible
condemns
sins

Bible
teaches
Judgment

Hb.6:4-6

I. Literally – His Father Took Him Away

II. Historically – Scholars Take Him Away

III. Morally – Unbelievers Take Him Away

IV. Doctrinally –
Churches Take Him Away

Denominations

Contrast early disciples –

- ▶ Preached the word, Ac.8:4, 5, (12-13)
25, 35
- ▶ Ac.8:36-38 = Mk.16:15-16

How many denominations even read these verses, much less explain them in context?

2 Tim.4:2-4

- Preach the word, 2
- Expect negative reactions, 3-4

Intolerance

Soft teaching

Personal desires

Turn from truth

Itchy ears

Turn to fables

2 Tim.4:2-4

- Preach the word, 2
- Expect negative reactions, 3-4

Different ways take you to heaven

Church has nothing to do w. salvation

Focus on drama, food, number, wealth

- Jn.6:60...66

Denominations
Digressives

Why? How did apostasy happen?

- Elders. Ac.20:28-32.
 - TV / Recreation / Busy-ness?
 - Internet / email / false doctrine.
- Preachers. 2 Tim.4, compromise.

I. Literally – His Father Took Him Away

II. Historically – Scholars Take Him Away

III. Morally – Unbelievers Take Him Away

IV. Doctrinally – Churches Take Him Away

V. Family –
World Takes Him Away

Family gains world, loses Jesus

*“A voice was heard in Ramah,
Lamentation, weeping, and great
mourning, Rachel weeping for her
children, Refusing to be comforted,
Because they are no more” – Mt.2:18*

◇ (Jer.31:15)

◇ World still slaughters innocents

Many think they have found Jesus

A baby in the manger

Want Him as infant, not Lord

Jn.7:11; 9:12

Mt.16:24-26

What to do
with it?



Get tired
of it?

Die, leave
it behind?