

We Live in the Power of the Resurrection
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Have you had one of those Murphy's law type years? A year where it seems that everything that could go wrong did? You are grief-weary. You have been beaten down by life. There is no room for joy in your life these days.

The empty tomb is the place where suffering is replaced by Easter joy, but it is not so with you. The hard season of suffering and pain has left you with a Good Friday mournful spirit, replacing that Easter joy.

On Easter Sunday, we find a woman standing at the empty tomb. Mary of Magdalene is a woman from whom seven demons were cast out: from demon holder to Jesus follower. When she came to the tomb that Sunday, she had lost a dear friend, her soul liberator. She went there to mourn, to grieve her loss. She went to perform His wake and try and figure out how life would move forward now that He was gone. Her resurrection came wrapped not with beautiful bows and bright spring colors, but with a dark, cold, gray stone of sorrow. She was wracked with crippling pain.

Do you relate to Mary? Is all this talk of alleluias, Christ is risen, and Easter celebration difficult for you because you are carrying a boatload of grief? As you grieve the loss of something, grief can blind your vision and coat your heart so thoroughly that you, like Mary, can't see Jesus standing right in front of you. If this is where you are today, Jesus has a message for you. Know that you have a Savior who is familiar with your situation. You have a Messiah who understands sorrow and suffering. Peter writes about those trials you are facing. "These things show that the Lord knows how to rescue the godly from their trials..." 2 Peter 2:9.

Though this season may be rough with grief and pain is all you know right now, remember God Almighty is with you, and He will shine through your pain. He is your strength when you have no strength. Rest in Him, find strength in him and joy will return in the morning. We live in the power of the resurrection.