

# FOR OUR JUSTIFICATION

## JOHN 20:1-20

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

BACKGROUND: Justification means that we stand before God as sinners declared righteous after being accused. (Romans 4:25)

***JESUS WAS RESURRECTED!*** (John 20:8) John saw and believed. “The great goal our text sets before us is to believe as Peter and John believed.” Kent Hughes, John, page 454. (John 20:1-9, fn 20:1ff, fn 20:9[1<sup>st</sup>], fn 20:9[2<sup>nd</sup>], I Corinthians 15:12-28, fn 15:13-18, Ephesians 1:18-20, fn 1:19, 20) *Is it possible to be a Christian and not believe in the resurrection? Why or why not?*

***JESUS APPEARED TO MARY!*** “She had sinned much, she had been forgiven much, and she loved much.” Kent Hughes, John, page 455. Justification is God’s declaration that those who believe in the work of Christ for them are freely forgiven and no longer counted as guilty. (John 20:10-18, fn 20:17, fn 20:18[1<sup>st</sup>], fn 20:18[2<sup>nd</sup>], Matthew 28:1-10, fn 28:5-7, fn 28:6) *Why is it significant that Jesus’ first appearance was to Mary Magdalene?*

***JESUS APPEARED TO THE DISCIPLES!*** After He said peace be with you, He showed them His hands and side. “Peace of God is the state of affairs in which God instead of being against us is for us.” J.I Packer, Knowing God, page 177. There cannot be peace with God apart from righteousness. There cannot be righteousness apart from justification. (John 20:19-20, Romans 4:25-5:1, fn 4:25, fn 5:1, Romans 5:16-18, II Corinthians 5:21, fn 5:21, I John 4:10, fn 4:10) *How can you have peace in difficult circumstances?*

*Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.*