

**Idea:** As diligent students we must rightly handle the Word of God.  
We are to study it, preach it, teach it, believe it, and above all obey it.

## **I. THE CONTEXT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE**

### **A. Struggling to BELIEVE**

1. The **WOMEN** vs. 1-8
2. Mary **MAGDALENE** vs. 9-10
3. The **DISCIPLES** vs. 11-13

### **B. Jesus' RESPONSE vs. 14-18**

1. The **REBUKE** v. 14
2. The **COMMAND** v. 15-16

- The **OCCASION**
- Those **ADDRESSED**
- The **CHARGE** – preach and baptize

### **The Problem of verse 16: Is baptism necessary in order to be saved?**

The reasons this **ISN'T** teaching that you must be **BAPTIZED** to go to heaven:

- The emphasis of this passage and verse is **BELIEF**
- Condemnation is for **UNBELIEF** only
- The apostles preached salvation by **FAITH** alone

- The New Testament gives examples of salvation before **BAPTISM**

### **3. The confirming SIGNS that follow vs. 17-18**

- **WHEN** the signs will be done
- **WHAT** the signs were
- **WHO** did these signs
- **WHY** they were done

We can't accept **SOME** of these signs and not accept them **ALL**

That these signs took place on occasion does not require that they take place on **EVERY** occasion. The miraculous signs that God used to **AUTHENTICATE** the Gospel in the 1<sup>st</sup> century may not be normative for the 21<sup>st</sup> century

## **II. THE APPLICATION TO OUR LIVES**

- A. TRUSTING** Christ (plus nothing else) always results in **ETERNAL LIFE**
- B. OBEYING** the Lord in baptism is the first step of **DISCIPLESHIP**
- C. PURSUING** Christ above all else is the goal of our **LIVES**