



JOANNA (JEHOHANAN)

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Who is Joanna?

The name Joanna is a shorten form of “Jehohanan”. It means, “YHWH is favour or YHWH is gracious”. Joanna was the wife of Chuza, Herod’s steward.

When Jesus was preaching and teaching the Kingdom of God in the cities and villages along with His twelve disciples, he healed many women of evil spirits and sicknesses. One among them was Joanna. From then onwards, she became a disciple of Jesus Christ and followed Him closely. She was one among who provided for Jesus Christ and His followers or disciples. During the time of Jesus’ crucifixion, she was one among the women who followed Him at a distance and watched all happening. She mourned deeply along with others. Once Jesus breathed His last, they came home to prepare spices and fragrant oils. On the early morning next day to Sabbath, she went to the tomb along with other women where Jesus was laid. She was in awe to see the stone rolled away and they couldn’t find the body of Jesus Christ inside the tomb. They were perplexed and then, two men in shining apparel told them that Jesus had risen as He had taught them in Galilee. Then they remembered His words spoken earlier. She might have been rejoicing along with others over the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Bible Accounts:

Luke 8:1-3; Luke 23:49,55,56; Luke 24:1-10.

Now it came to pass, afterward, that He went through every city and village, preaching and bringing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God. And the twelve *were* with Him,² and certain women who had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities—Mary called Magdalene, out of whom had come seven demons,³ and *Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod’s steward*, and Susanna, and many others who provided for Him from their substance.

⁴⁹ But all His acquaintances, and *the women who followed Him from Galilee*, stood at a distance, watching these things.

⁵⁵ And *the women who had come with Him from Galilee* followed after, and they observed the tomb and how His body was laid.⁵⁶ Then they returned

and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the Sabbath according to the commandment.

Now on the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain *other women* with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. ² But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. ³ Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. ⁵ Then, as they were afraid and bowed *their* faces to the earth, they said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, ⁷ saying, ‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.’” ⁸ And they remembered His words. ⁹ Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, *Joanna*, Mary *the mother* of James, and the other *women* with them, who told these things to the apostles.

Lessons from Joanna:

- ❖ **Heart condition:** Joanna though was in a good status in the town, her heart was towards the healing and the preaching of Jesus Christ. She followed Him closely like Mary Magdalene.
- ❖ **Generous:** She had a generous heart of providing/supporting for Jesus Christ and His disciples.
- ❖ **Gratitude:** She was grateful to Jesus till the end. She didn’t go away from Jesus Christ once she was healed. She followed Him closely.
- ❖ **Witness:** She might have been witnessing about Jesus Christ to all around her in the Herod’s place, as her husband was the steward of Herod.
- ❖ **Faithfulness:** Her faith in Christ has fetched her a place near Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James. How blessed must she be!

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Gal220Ministries.org & XpressChrist@gmail.com