

Luke 24:36-49, John 20:19-23 – Christ Appears To The Disciples

Introduction

1. Christ the Lord is the Prince of Peace, Our God and Father is the God of Peace, The Spirit produces the fruit of peace within the believer, and the Church maintains the bond of peace
2. The believer is characterized by peace – not an absence of conflict, but a wholeness and completeness within and without, with self, neighbor, nature and God; it is a peace that surpasses all understanding

Main Idea: The Peace Christ the Lord offers to you is a peace that is offered to those guilty of sin, even the skeptic, who examines the eyewitness account of Jesus, stands on the Word of God, and trusts in the Risen Christ as Lord and God. True peace with God through Christ leads to spiritual joy in Christ founded upon the proper exegesis from His word, a move toward the mission of God to win the nations, an exercise in the forgiveness of sins, and a connection to membership within the body of Christ.

Peace With God (Luke 24:36, John 20:19)

1. This is still Resurrection Sunday, the disciples are in the upper room and the door is locked because of fear of the Jews
 - a. Their leader has been executed and reports of the empty tomb at their hands is being spread by the religious authorities
 - b. Mary Magdalene and the women, Cleopas and his companion are likely with the disciples along with a company of followers
2. Jesus appears in the room while the doors are locked – this is either a Divine ability or a function of His glorified body; He can vanish/appear
3. Jesus speaks peace to those who displayed cowardice & abandoned Him
 - a. There is no animosity, shame, or list of accusations, just peace
 - b. Jesus is able to redeem & sanctify and offer peace because of His death and resurrection from the dead; to reconcile sinners to God
4. The disciples are guilty of Sin, and Jesus speaks good news to them; Peace be with you! (cf. John 14:17)
5. Jesus spoke of this peace on the cusp of His crucifixion (Jn 16:32-33)
6. Peace with God comes through Christ's death and is the result of our justification by faith in Christ (Romans 5:1)
7. Jesus brings peace to the troubled minds of the disciples (fear of the Jews, guilty consciences for how they treated the Lord Jesus)
8. This is costly peace, not cheap peace as the False Prophets speak of peace when there is no peace; peace involves repentance from sins and faith in Jesus Christ who shed His blood to purchase this peace w/ God

Joy In Christ (Luke 24:37-40, John 20:20)

1. Jesus' appearance startled the disciples and thought Christ to be an apparition, a spirit, a phantom
2. Jesus ministered to their hearts of fear and guilt, now to their minds
 - a. Use your mind: Look at my hands, feet, and side – see and touch
 - b. Jesus gives evidence that He was crucified & His body was raised

3. Even with Jesus before their eyes, the disciples still lacked faith
4. The process of Peace began to move their hearts from fear and guilt to joy and wonder – *they disbelieved for joy* – joy mixed with doubt
 - a. Guilt turned to gladness, and joy overcame their fear and sadness
5. Jesus proves more that He is bodily raised by eating broiled fish
 - a. The disciples never forgot this moment (Acts 10:39b-41)

Life In Spirit & Truth (Luke 24:44-49, John 20:21-23)

1. Jesus shows from the Scriptures how redemptive history was connected to His suffering and death, and resurrection from the dead
 - a. The Redemptive Historical Method (Biblical Theology) – One big story where every law, every event, and every prophecy anticipates & finds fulfillment in Christ Jesus, connecting all Scripture to Him
 - b. Jesus sovereignly opened the minds of His disciples to grasp the Truth of the Word of God as connected to His sufferings & death
 - c. Understanding the Scriptures is a gracious gift from God to you
2. Jesus's death moves His people to mission, to make God's opponents His sons – the Cross of Christ secured the forgiveness of sins and the resurrection of Christ assures us of the forgiveness of sins
 - a. God's love for the world is His lost sheep who need the Gospel
 - b. The Father sent Jesus into the world to redeem His sheep
 - c. Jesus sends the disciple and us into the world to bring the children of God into the Kingdom as one congregation, one church
 - d. Jesus speaks of sending His disciples into the world twice (Jn 17)
 - i. Jesus fulfills His prayer when He sends His disciples on mission to win His lost sheep
 - e. We go into the world with authority from Heaven to proclaim Truth, repentance from sin, and faith in king Jesus, peace with God
 - f. We go into the world with humility, as God's servant, a debtor to both Jew & Gentile, Free & Slave, Wise & Fool, etc
3. Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to indwell and empower our going
 - a. Jesus breathes on His apostles as a new creation, reminiscent of when God breathed life into Adam when made of dust
 - b. Where Jesus is present God is present – Jesus baptizes w/ the Spirit & Fire, He is given the Spirit w/o measure (Jn 3), therefore He took the place of the temple (Jn 2) – by giving the indwelling Spirit WE become the temple of God
4. The disciples have the power to forgive or withhold forgiveness of Sin
 - a. The temple/sacrificial ceremonies are fulfilled in Christ once for all
 - b. Forgiveness of Sin is found in the Cross of Christ
 - c. Christ founded the Church to exercise discernment of true fruits proving salvation – Church membership, fencing the table, & redemptive church discipline play a strong role in forgiveness
 - d. The Church recognizes who is a child of God through repentance

Application

1. Interpret the Bible Hebraically (TNK) all pointing to Christ
2. Divine Revelation is not given apart from the Scriptures
3. We do as Christ did – extend peace to people, 4. Worship w/ this pattern