

A Resurrection Charge

John 20: 19 – 29

18 April 2021 A.M.

Series: From Resurrection to Pentecost

John 20: 19 - 20

¹⁹ So when it was evening on that day, the first *day* of the week, and when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace *be* with you.” ²⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Fear Dispelled. Vv. 19 - 20

- It was the Sunday of the Resurrection.
 - The disciples were locked in a room due to fear.
 - They felt that they were next to be arrested.
- Jesus appears.
 - He is no longer limited by physics.
 - His words, Peace (εἰρήνη, or shalom) to you would remind them of his last words to them.
 - Showing his wounds proved Who He is as a resurrected body.
 - The disciples believed and rejoiced.

John 20: 21 - 23

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, “Peace *be* with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ “If you forgive the sins of any, *their* sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they have been retained.”

Charged with a Commission. Vv. 21 - 23

- Again Jesus states Peace be with you.
 - As Jesus was sent by the Father, so He sends them.
 - Knowing the Shalom of God, they are messengers of peace.
- He breathed on them saying “Receive the Holy Spirit.”
 - This would be completed at Pentecost.
 - Holy Spirit power is necessary when sent by God.
- Forgiving sins that have been forgiven.
 - Based on Scripture we declare forgiven those in Christ.

John 20: 24 - 26

²⁴ But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples were saying to him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” ²⁶ After eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst and said, “Peace *be* with you.”

John 20: 27 - 29

²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, “Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing.” ²⁸ Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed *are* they who did not see, and *yet* believed.”

Faith In sight Vv. 24 - 29

- Thomas missed church that first Sunday.
 - He may have been too despondent to gather with the others.
 - He couldn't believe their report making his own demands.
- Jesus comes again the second Sunday.
 - Jesus confronts Thomas meeting his demands.
 - Thomas' great declaration of faith.
- Thomas saw, but blessed are those who believe who do not see.

Conclusion

- Church is important, and absence may result in missing out on “seeing Jesus.”
- With Holy Spirit power we must witness of Jesus the resurrected one recognizing that He is sending us.
- With the gospel in hand we can share how one can have peace with God and sins forgiven.
- We declare Jesus is My Lord and My God, and are blessed for believing, for faith gives spiritual sight.