

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

Jesus Appears to the Eleven Less Thomas

Last time...Jesus appeared to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus and they got...heartburn

This time...The Personal appearances of the risen Lord continue

Jesus appears to the eleven disciples, less Thomas

Mildly put, this is a remarkable day for Jesus' disciples

We will be in Mark 16, Luke 24, and John 20

Mark 16

v14 Afterward...the eleven...upbraided:

Afterward...after Jesus appeared to

- Mary Magdalene
- the other women
- the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus
- Simon Peter (1 Cor 15:5)

the risen Lord appeared to the eleven disciples

(less Thomas, as we will learn in the Gospel of John)

What did Jesus do and say to them?

He called them on the carpet for hard-heartedly NOT believing the eyewitnesses

He had sent to them this Day

Getting called on the carpet for not believing – is this the first thing you want to hear from Jesus Christ when you see Him face-to-face?!

Luke 24

v36 As they spake, Jesus Himself stood:

As they...the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus

spake...testified to the eleven (less Thomas) that

- the risen Lord Jesus had
 - appeared to them
 - rebuked them for their unbelief
 - expounded all the Scriptures concerning Himself
 - gave them heartburn
- they recognized Him when they saw His hands
- He vanished, became invisible

Jesus Himself...Personally

- appeared to the eleven
- greeted them

Peace be unto you...picking up from His Last Words with them before the Cross

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 16:32-33

Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

v37 terrified and affrighted:

But, seeing and hearing Jesus, the eleven had no peace
They had fear

- scared
- shocked
- alarmed

Fear corrupts and “combats” faith
The antidote for fear is...faith
But faith is in short supply with the eleven

They thought they had seen a ghost/angel
They, like the previous eyewitnesses, did not recognize Jesus
(in His glorified body)

v38 Why are ye troubled:

3 days and 3 nights ago, Jesus told them, “**Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.**” (John 14:1)

But the risen Lord is now standing right in front of them and they are fearful

Why are you troubled?
Why do you not believe?
Why are your hearts polluted with doubts and imaginations?

v39-40 Behold My hands and My feet:

The 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus testified that they did not recognize Jesus...until He “showed” them His hands

Now Jesus gives the eleven evidence that He is indeed risen, as He had repeatedly foretold them

- shows the eleven His hands and His feet...Exhibit A
- encourages them to touch/examine/handle Him

(Can you hear the 2 disciples: “We told you so!!!”)

The eleven thought they had seen a ghost/angel...and Jesus knows what they thought

He offers proof that He is no angel – He has a material body of flesh and bones, unlike angels

2 Cor 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens
(Equipped to be in the very presence of God in heaven)

Note: no mention of “blood”

Lev 17:11 For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it *is* the blood *that* maketh an atonement for the soul.

Jesus’ life (blood), the Father’s sin sacrifice for the sins of mankind, was given as payment for all lives (atonement)
Now, in the resurrected body, the Life is the Spirit

Our first view of Jesus could be shocking...

we shall see what He was willing to endure for us personally

Rev 5:5-6a And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof. And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain

before

Zech 12:10 They will look upon Him Whom they pierced

v41-43 they yet believed not for joy...any meat:
Do the eleven now believe that Jesus is risen?
No!

- a. It's too good to be true!
- b. They wondered...
 - Wow!
 - processing this information vs believing

And Jesus knows that so He offers up Exhibit B – eating food
Ghosts/angels don't eat

Jesus asks them for something to eat and they give him a piece of fish and a piece of honeycomb

1. PTL! We, in our glorified bodies, will eat food!
Wonderful news for foodies everywhere
2. I love Jesus so I love deserts...I'm following Jesus when I eat cookies and candy and doughnuts!

v44-45 all things must be fulfilled...written:

And then, just as He had done with the slow of heart disciples on the road to Emmaus, Jesus opened the minds/intellects of the eleven regarding the Scriptures (Law, prophets, psalms) concerning Him

After Jesus returned to the right hand of the Father, the Holy Spirit would so testify (John 15:26) to the Apostles and record His words for us (NT Scriptures)

Now, hearing Jesus' expound all the Scriptures, the eleven could comprehend what the Scriptures said

Jesus had said all things must be fulfilled

Matt 26:54 But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?

Now, He teaches how they were fulfilled

(Scriptures concerning His 1st Coming, as the Suffering Servant of God)

Just as He foretold He would

Matt 5:17-18 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

v46-47 written...behoved Christ...repentance and remission:

This is what was written...and God cannot lie...and this is why:

- It was necessary for the Christ to suffer and rise from the dead on the 3rd day

To defeat man's enemy, Christ had to confront and conquer that enemy

1 Cor 15:26 The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death.

Heb 2:14-15 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage

- So that
 - repentance...2 Tim 2:24-26

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And *that* they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will
 - remission of sin...forgiveness, removal, freedom from
 - should be preached
 - in His name...Act 4:12, 20

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved

For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.
 - to all nations...Jew and Gentile
 - beginning in Jerusalem (undivided Jerusalem)

v48 ye are witnesses:

You eleven (less Thomas just yet) are eyewitnesses of the fulfillment of all these things God had foretold

What is a witness called upon to do?
Speak of what he has seen and heard and knows

John 20

v19 the same day...doors were shut...fear of the Jews...Peace:

Then the same day...after the previous appearances of the risen Lord

at evening...at night

Time in the Gospel of John, recorded 20-25 years after the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple, is Roman time vs Jewish time

first day of the week...Sunday

when the doors were shut for fear of the Jews..."We could be next!
Let's lock ourselves in, and lock them out."

came Jesus and stood in the midst...without walking thru an open door since the doors were shut

Peace...troubled souls need the peace of the Prince of peace

The peace of God calms the fearful heart

Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding,
shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus

v20-21 hands and His side...glad...again:

In Luke's account the eleven were scared and alarmed, thinking they had seen a ghost

To prove He was indeed risen, Jesus shows them His hands and feet and side

Then the eleven were glad...super happy...when they recognized their Lord

Matt 5:4 **Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.**

Then, Jesus repeats His greeting of Peace (OK boys, let's try this again...)

Peace in Christ, that Jesus has defeated death

Peace in Christ, that God has kept His promise of deliverance

And now that “we have that (resurrection) established”, Jesus sends them as the Father sent Him

Sent to bear witness of the OTL God and His faithful Word
Sent to self-lastly serve others
Sent with peace
Sent with all doubts removed

v22 breathed on...Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

When the eleven finally believed that Jesus was risen from the dead,
Jesus breathed on them

“breathed”...this is the only place in NT this Greek word appears
Means what the Hebrew word means in Gen 2:7
And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and
breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a
living soul.

Jesus is restoring that which was lost by Adam – the life of God dwelling in man
1 Cor 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living
soul; the last Adam *was made* a quickening spirit.

They received the Holy Ghost...the 3rd Person of the Eternal Godhead came into
them...and on this day they are born-again of the Spirit of God
John 3:3-6
1 Peter 1:18-23

Jesus breathed the Spirit of God on His disciples...
God the Holy Spirit indwells that person, making them a
new creature in Christ...
Divine nature is co-resident with human nature
The newness of spiritual life is the Spirit of Christ
Believers are re-instated as “sons of God”
Adam was not “begotten”...he was created
We are not created...we are generated

We are not sons of God by natural generation...
Regeneration of the Spirit is required (John 1:11-13, Titus 3:5)

They are sent, they are going, with the Helper/Comforter He promised

v23 remit...retain:

As the Father has sent Jesus, so Jesus sends His disciples

As they go to bear witness and to serve others...with peace and the Holy Spirit...
they will deal with issues of sin

remit: send forth, lay aside, let go of

retain: held on to

not in an unforgiveness sense but in a no repentance sense,
repentance being a gift of God for the good of the sinner

retaining the sin: to turn a situation over to Jesus to let Him do His good work on
the sinner

e.g. from John Higgins

- Razor blades in the shower soap while in the Oregon commune – repentance 1 hour later
- Izzy's guitar stolen from hallway in Chuck E Cheese – repentance 3 hours later
- 2 sets of boxed trees stolen from CCTC – repentance 7 years later, "miserable life, drugs, prison term, saved at Teen Challenge outreach"

Another example: Masia and Faye regarding our stolen generator

v24-25 But Thomas...Except...I will not believe:

Recorded here in the Gospel of John is that the eleven are one short of eleven
Thomas was not there that Resurrection Sunday night

Thomas aka "Doubting"

John 11:16 Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his
fellow disciples, Let us also go, that we may die with him

John 14:5 Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou
goest; and how can we know the way?

Where was he?

No matter but when he rejoins them, the other 10 of the eleven bear witnesses of
the risen Lord, as had the other eyewitnesses

But Thomas still ain't buying it

He insists on believing when he sees for himself, touches for himself
"Unless I do, I will not believe."

Talk about "Wow!"

Bold unbelief

A Missouri mule of unbelief

Application

Peace be unto you...through the righteousness of faith in Jesus Christ (Rom 4:13) comes peace

a. Peace with God

Rom 4:22 – 5:2

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Matt 5:9 Blessed *are* the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Rom 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost

Rom 15:13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost

b. Peace with each other

Mark 9:50b Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.
Salt = grace/forgiveness

Rom 14:19 Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another

2 Cor 13:11 Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you

Col 3:15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful

c. Peace is every circumstance

Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus

John 16:33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world

Rom 5:3-5

Introduction to all the Epistles: Grace and peace

By faith we have peace

With faith and peace, serve

- King of peace
- Prince of peace
- God of peace