

SPRING QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2015

THEME: THE PRESENCE, POWER AND PROPERTIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Unit I – HIS PRESENCE

“GOD’S CHAPERONE NEVER LEAVES US ALONE, PART III: RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT FROM THE RISEN SAVIOUR



Sunday School Lesson IV – March 22, 2015

Rev. Frank A. Davis, III, Pastor-Teacher

Lesson Text: John 20:19-23

Required Reading: Luke 24:36-49; John 20:19-23

Motto Text: John 20:22, “*And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost.*”

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI); Word-Search 10 Electronic Library System; MacArthur Study Bible; Spiritual Warfare by Dr. David Jeremiah; The Outline Bible by H. L. Willmington; Barnes Notes on the New Testament

Introduction

The focus of our quarter is on “**The Presence, Power and Properties of the Holy Spirit.**” Our lesson began in the Upper Room discourse of John 13 and literally takes us to the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord in Chapter 20.

Jesus spent a great portion of His earthly ministry preparing a select handful of men to carry on the greatest task in the universe, the salvation of the human race! According to the Gospel narrative, these men had optimism and even hope until they witnessed the riddled, repulsive, lifeless corpse of the Lord Jesus Christ hanging on the Cross. It was then that all their hope was lost and their greatest fears took center stage in their lives. Such fear caused them to hide themselves from the possibility of their despair and demise. (Read Luke 24:13-24). It is from this disposition that I declare unto you, “**God’s Chaperone Never Leaves Us Alone, Part III: Receiving the Holy Spirit from the Risen Saviour.**”

Anticipated Power Points:

- **The Glorious Appearing. John 20:19-20**
- **The Great Appointment. John 20:21-23**

Many a proclaiming preacher or teacher has given a shout of acclamation concerning the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The shout is “early Sunday morning, He got up from the grave!” But who are the witnesses of the early morning resurrection? The women with Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb, early, but Jesus was already gone. Peter and John came to the tomb early, but not early enough, and they went back home (Jn. 20:10). Two men met Him later in the day on the road to Emmaus (Lk. 24:13-35) and as evening approached, invited Him to eat dinner with them, and yet they did not recognize Him.

But what of the faithful disciples of Jesus Christ? This is where our text takes us today. “**Then the same day at evening...**” Not early, but evening, Jesus arrives at the disciples’ dwelling and had to supernaturally enter the dwelling. This is where our lesson begins.

LESSON OUTLINE

I. The Glorious Appearing. John 20:19-20

With doors and apparently windows shut and locked, Jesus entered the room without disturbing a molecule. But why were these servants of Christ so fearful? Perhaps because the word was out that Christ's disciples might have stolen His body (Mt. 27:62-67; 28:11-15). Truly there was a fear for their lives, but Jesus promised before His suffering and death, ***"I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you."*** John 14:18. So according to John's account:

A. He showed up. vs. 19 "...stood in the midst." Several scriptural accounts give positive proof: Mark 16:9-14; I Corinthians 15:4-7.

B. He spoke up. vs. 19

He declared His peace unto the fearful, frightened disciples. The peace of Christ surpasses all understanding. According to Luke 24, they thought He was a ghost and sought to disprove their fears! (Read Luke 24:36-38)

C. He showed out. vs. 20

Ironically this verse is 20:20, and He shows them the marks of His suffering and death. Paul in Galatians 6:14-17 informs us that he too bore the marks of Christ in his body. I believe we who are "crucified with Christ" ought to show out our relationship with Him by the marks we bear (Gal. 2:20). The result of Jesus' marks gave the disciples positive proof that he was alive and well! It gave them joy!

II. The Great Appointment. John 20:21-23

Now there are three things that highlight the appointment of the disciples. They were:

- Commissioned. vs. 21
- Chaperoned. vs. 22
- Committed. vs. 23

A. Commissioned or deputized. vs. 21

Again the Lord focused on His peace. In spite of the disciples' failures, faults, and fears, Jesus renders to them and every believer's peace in two ways: Romans 5:1, ***"with God"*** and Philipians 4:7, ***"of God."*** His mission for these men was still on track. He deputized them in the power of the Spirit.

B. Chaperoned and empowered. vs. 22

As Adam in Genesis received the breath of life and became a living soul, Jesus breathed upon the disciples the Spirit of Pneuma, which means "breath." Until the Day of Pentecost, God's presence would be upon the men who would carry His message to the world. Not just as the Paraclete or the One who would live with or abide in them (Jn. 14:16), but also as God's breath of life would totally live in them (Jn. 14:17)! What a fellowship and fulfilled promise.

C. Committed and proclaiming. vs. 23

These empowered men were sent to unleash the program of God, the preaching of the Gospel. Note what the message of the Gospel would do: Remit or Retain...

1. Remit sin meant to cast it away from the sinner. Literally eternal forgiveness as one repents and receives the finished work of Christ by faith.
2. Retain sin meant sin's forgiveness will remain unpaid in the person who rejects the only price that could satisfy God's righteousness, the precious blood of Jesus Christ! Jesus alone declared at the end of His life on the cross... ***"It is finished"*** or literally, "paid in full." If this is rejected then the sinner retains his sin and its penalty!

CLOSING

Now that Jesus paid it all, He has given us the Chaperone, His Holy Spirit, and has caused us to become ambassadors of reconciliation. II Corinthians 5:18-21, ***"And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."***

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Looking Ahead:

March 29, 2015

Mark 11:1-11

You are invited to attend Noon Bible Study every Wednesday as Pastor Davis teaches the lesson at Bibleway.