

I. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ changed *everything for everybody forever*.

- A. These people had their entire lives completely removed and replaced by Christ. Gal.2:19-21. **You?**
- B. The Resurrection is universal and eternal truth. It's not just true for those who believe it. *It's true for everybody forever and has ramifications for all human destinies, and the material world.*

II. The first day of the New Reality. Gospel Life. Jn.20:19-31

A. The Disciples enter it. 19-23

- 1. The life of God is in you. 22
 - a) An acted parable pointing to Acts 2 (Lk.24:49)
 - (1) The Chronological issues are not the most important, the fact of the Spirit's work in and through us is the point.
 - b) Trinitarian all through! God is doing this, Father, Son, Spirit.
- 2. The message of God is upon you. 23
 - a) Repentance/Forgiveness of sins. (Lk.24:47)
 - b) The authority to forgive sins? God forgives through the gospel, but the gospel is on our lips. His authority, not ours, but we are agents of it.

B. Thomas enters it. 24-29

- 1. Thomas was not a believer until he believed...
- 2. He was a loyal disciple in a way, but not the way the Lord wants. The way of complete reliance, trust, letting the full weight down, knowing completely and truly who Jesus is. Rom.10:9-10

C. So that we may also enter it. 30-31

- 1. Able to say what Thomas said. Not unbelieving, but believing.

III. Four things the Lord reminds us of.

A. His gospel is more important and powerful than we are. Rom.1:16-17

- 1. Only if we really grasp this will our lives come into focus. Mtt.6:33.
 - a) Focus = the center of sight around which other things are arranged.
- 2. More important than our Self, Marriage, Family, Clan, Nation, Race. Lk.14:26

B. His resurrection means we are a *missional* people. He sends us.

- 1. We are essentially *sent* into whatever circumstances they find themselves. **Providence is true.** Gen.45:5; 50:20
 - a) We're all on mission even when they don't mean to be. The Joseph story. Gen.37-50. **45:5**
- 2. We are willing to be sent somewhere else—relocate. (Mtt.28:19)
 - a) God meets people and sends them. Abraham. Moses. Isaiah.6:1-8; Paul (Acts 13)

C. His grace reminds us that he trusts *Himself* more than he trusts *us*. (His Spirit) (Jn.2:24)

- 1. He saved us; we didn't volunteer or save ourselves.
 - a) We are not saving the world—He is.
- 2. He uses us; we don't use him. Phil.2:12-13; John 15:1-7; Mtt.28:20.
 - a) Lk.24:49b: Stay in Jerusalem until the Spirit enables you. (Acts 2)
 - b) 2 Cor. 4:7-15. This treasure in cracked clay pots.
- 3. *So, we must be more confident of His work in and through us than of our own work.*
 - a) *Holding our plans loosely Jas.4:13-17*
 - b) *Assuming He is using our mistakes.*
 - c) *Trusting that he is working when we feel like failures. 2 Cor.3:4*

D. Our faith is radical and personal. (Eph.2:8-10)

- 1. My Lord and My God. Jesus is the resurrected, saving Lord, God's only Son, God in the flesh. And I trust him personally.
- 2. Gal.2:19-21. Our lives have been removed and replaced by Christ.