Jesus Resurrected

11-10-24

John 20:21 (ESV)
Jesus said to them, "As the Father has sent ME, even so I am sending you."

As Chapter 19 was about the crucifixion, now Chapter 20 is about the resurrection. The Chapter speaks for itself. Jesus' resurrection is proof of our own resurrection and eternal life.

John 14:1-3 (ESV) NO/OH

¹Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ²In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.

We all should read the amazing details of the resurrection in chapter 20. However, this morning we will examine a specific instruction given by the Resurrected Jesus. Jesus said, "As the Father has sent ME, even so I am sending you." Jesus is giving us an assignment. Most people would believe this is a requirement to do loads of good works, help the poor, be a missionary, etc. While these things are good and we should help in every opportunity we have, this is not what Jesus is saying here. It says, as Jesus was sent, we are to be sent. So, we need to look closely how Jesus was sent.

John 5:30 (ESV) NO/OH

I can do nothing on my own. I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me.

We fulfill our assignment by doing nothing on our own. We hear Go and do what HE tells us. How do we know this? Because this is exactly what Jesus did. This is "how" the Father sent Jesus. To be sent out like Jesus we need the same power Jesus had. Therefore, the following verse is critical.

John 20:22 (ESV)

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, <u>"Receive the Holy Spirit."</u>

Jesus knew we couldn't do what He said without the Holy Spirit. Not only will Jesus give us an assignment, <u>BUT HE WILL ALSO</u> give us the power to accomplish everything that HE wants us to do. JESUS will GIVE US the Parakletos, THE HOLY SPIRIT! <u>LISTEN</u>: For ministry, Jesus provided the Holy Spirit. <u>This was the initial announcement of which Pentecost was the historic fulfillment.</u> <u>This pre-Pentecost event was a teaching tool or experience, but not the permanent indwelling</u>. The words of Jesus emphasize that the Holy Spirit is not bestowed on the church as an ornament but to empower us to do the work of Christ. <u>As The Father sent Jesus full of the Holy Spirit likewise Jesus sends us full of the Holy Spirit</u>. Apostle Paul elaborates in Romans.

Romans 6:5 (ESV)

For if we have been "united" with him in a death like HIS (crucifixion), we shall certainly be "united" with HIM in a resurrection like HIS.

Paul connects the resurrection of Christ with the new life for those who believe. And that life belongs to the present time. Therefore, we see that resurrection has to do with the Holy Spirit dwelling within us giving us spiritual life. The certainty of our present participation in this new resurrection life is grounded on the truth that "we have been united with him in his death (dying to our self efforts)."

Romans 6:8 (ESV) NO/OH

Now if we have "died" with Christ, we believe that we will also "live" with him.

Jesus paid the penalty for our sins, and we have eternal life when we trust put out trust in HIM. As Romans 6:8 says, after we trust Jesus, we die to our self-efforts and "let" Christ live through us. This life in Christ on earth requires a decision on our part.

Romans 6:11 (ESV)

So you also must <u>"consider"</u> yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Here is a word that will change your life; Consider! Consider literally means make a decision and act on it! This key word can be translated "count it so" or "reckon it so". Reckoning does not create the fact of union with Christ but reckoning makes it operative in one's life. As a believer with Christ in us, functioning in this world, we make a decision, reckon it so, to be dead to sin, and alive to God.

The Holy Spirit power is quenched or released based on our decision. The verb used here is in the present tense, indicating that we must continually make decisions for Christ in every situation, every day. Thus, we must continue to "make decisions" to live for Christ or the body of sin is reactivated. It is a paradox; the Christian is dead and alive at the same time. Some people don't believe this. However, every Christian experiences this every day of their lives. I believer this is what the Apostle Paul is telling us in Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith (hearing then doing) in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." All the potential of the resurrected life is always present to empower us. Our decisions will reactivate the body of sin or fill us with the resurrected power of Christ.

2 Timothy 2:11 (ESV)

The saying is trustworthy, for: "If" we have died with HIM, we will also live with HIM.

The verse is looking at the evidence of a believer's life. The key to releasing the resurrection power is dying to our self-efforts. The Pauline formula is "You have to die to live."

Jesus died to give us life on earth and in heaven.

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.