

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter ~ Sunday, April 19, 2020

“More Than Conquerors ~ Victory Over Fear”

John 20:19-23

We're all \_\_\_\_\_ with the Easter story, the question is:

**Will the resurrection of Jesus make a difference in your life this year or will it be business as usual?**

**How do we allow this story that we know so well to be more than just a story in our lives?**

**What is the significance of the resurrection for our lives today?**

The resurrection of Jesus celebrates more than just a \_\_\_\_\_ event that occurred 2000 years ago. Easter is God's \_\_\_\_\_ to us to share in Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_.

“‘Death has been swallowed up in victory.’ ‘Where, O death, is your victory?’ ‘Where, O death, is your sting?’ The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Corinthians 15:54-57)

“...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.” (Romans 8:37)

Our victory in Christ isn't \_\_\_\_\_ to what happens after we die. We're invited to share in Jesus' victory \_\_\_\_\_, in this life, today.

In the ups and downs of everyday living, God wants us to be \_\_\_\_\_, not victims; to grow, not grovel; to soar, not sink; to \_\_\_\_\_, not be overwhelmed.

**I am living this life of victory?**

**Am I living my life in such away that I acknowledge not only that Jesus is alive, but that I have new life in Him?**

The disciples meet not in a spirit of celebration, but of \_\_\_\_\_, as the doors are locked for fear of the jews. They knew the intense bitterness of those who had brought about the death of Jesus, and so it's only natural that they'd be \_\_\_\_\_ that they were next. On top of that, the body of Jesus was missing, and they were certain they'd be \_\_\_\_\_ for it.

Huddled together in fear, the disciples dared not to believe that \_\_\_\_\_ was possible, that God's \_\_\_\_\_ was more powerful than an epidemic of anxiety and fear.

Fear = *phobos* =

## 2 KINDS OF FEAR

\_\_\_\_\_ **fears:** Those that come at us from the \_\_\_\_\_—like snakes, spiders, or a virus.

\_\_\_\_\_ **fears:** Those fears that reside \_\_\_\_\_ us—in our hearts and minds. These internal fears are the \_\_\_\_\_—rational or irrational—that we have within ourselves.

Fear can \_\_\_\_\_ us and keep us from living our lives to the fullest; it can steal our joy and rob our \_\_\_\_\_.

**3 responses to fear:** \_\_\_\_\_

“Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.” (Isaiah 41:10)

Peace = *shalom* =

When used as a greeting, shalom was a wish for outward \_\_\_\_\_ from disturbance as well as an inward sense of \_\_\_\_\_.

**When in dread, we need to remember Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ from the dead; He will come \_\_\_\_\_ when we're quarantined with fear!**

## 4 STEPS TO MOVING FROM FEAR TO FAITH

#1. \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_.

“For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of His cross.” (Colossians 1:19-20)

Because of Jesus' finished work on the cross, we can experience true and lasting peace in \_\_\_\_\_.

• **Peace \_\_\_\_\_: the \_\_\_\_\_ dimension.**

“Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.” (Romans 5:1)

The connotation of the word 'peace' here is “to be set at one again,” and speaks of \_\_\_\_\_ and restoration.

• **Peace** \_\_\_\_\_ : the \_\_\_\_\_ **dimension**.

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4:6-7)

This speaks of an inner calm and \_\_\_\_\_.

• **Peace** \_\_\_\_\_ : the \_\_\_\_\_ **dimension**.

“If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.” (Romans 12:18)

We can only do this in any real and \_\_\_\_\_ way—we can only live as \_\_\_\_\_—when we have peace with God and when we experience the peace of God.

True and lasting peace can only come from the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Prince of Peace. Because of Jesus’ death and resurrection, we can be at peace with our:

• \_\_\_\_\_.

“As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.” (Psalm 103:12)

• \_\_\_\_\_.

“Give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you. He will not permit the godly to slip and fall.” (Psalm 55:22)

• \_\_\_\_\_.

“Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.”

**Do you want this peace or are you content to cower in the corner?**

#2. \_\_\_\_\_ **Jesus’** \_\_\_\_\_.

Instead of \_\_\_\_\_ them for their unbelief, Jesus tries to \_\_\_\_\_ them that it’s really Him, and shows them His hands and His side, as \_\_\_\_\_ of His resurrection.

“We proclaim to you the one who existed from the beginning, whom we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands. He is the Word of life. This one who is life itself was revealed to us, and we have seen him. And now we testify and proclaim to you that he is the one who is eternal life. He was with the Father, and then he was revealed to us.” (1 John 1:1-2)

Having examined the proof, John tells us the disciples \_\_\_\_\_ because they had seen the Lord.

“So you have sorrow now, but I will see you again; then you will rejoice, and no one can rob you of that joy.” (John 16:22)

“This is our God! We trusted in him, and he saved us! This is the Lord, in whom we trusted. Let us rejoice in the salvation he brings!” (Isaiah 25:9)

**Have you examined the proof—do you believe that Jesus has indeed risen from the dead?**

#3. \_\_\_\_\_ **Jesus’** \_\_\_\_\_.

“Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” (John 20:21)

**Sent = *apostello* =**

The gospel is meant to be \_\_\_\_\_; it’s meant to \_\_\_\_\_, not stay in.

“As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.” (John 17:18)

**How are you sharing the Good News in this season?**

#4. \_\_\_\_\_ **Jesus’** \_\_\_\_\_.

“And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’” (John 20:22)

Jesus not only commissions them, He also gives them a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Holy Spirit. This gesture was also an affirmation of Jesus’ \_\_\_\_\_, making His own breath \_\_\_\_\_ of the breath of God. Just as God breathed the breath of life into Adam’s nostrils, making the first creation; the breath of Jesus also makes a \_\_\_\_\_ creation.

**How are you seeking to embody Jesus’ presence in this season?**



The \_\_\_\_\_ of Easter can’t be cancelled—the \_\_\_\_\_ of Easter can’t be quarantined.

“Look! I stand at the door and knock. If you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in, and we will share a meal together as friends. Those who are victorious will sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat with my Father on His throne.” (Revelation 3:20-21)

Jesus entered the house that first Easter night without using the door. However, He won’t come into our lives until we \_\_\_\_\_ the door and invite Him in. When you find yourself bound by worry and fear, instead of shaking in place, why not open the door, \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus in, and find shelter in His \_\_\_\_\_.