

The New Commission

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: John 20:19-31.

B. The first reaction to Jesus' resurrection was fear by the disciples.

C. The disciples began meeting on the first day of the week for the Sabbath because of Jesus' resurrection.

II. Jesus materialized through the doors to meet with the disciples emphasizing that Jesus is always with us.

III. Jesus greets the disciples with peace. Peace is the right of every believer.

IV. Jesus showed the disciples His hands and sides and ate to demonstrate that He was no ghost—He bodily rose from the dead.

V. Jesus came to the disciples at this point to give them the Holy Spirit.

A. The Baptism of the Spirit has to do with identifying with Christ. (Romans 6, I Corinthians 6)

B. The filling of the Spirit is equipping for ministry.

C. This event in John pictures the indwelling of the Spirit—Jesus' dwelling within the disciples.

D. The indwelling of the Spirit is the sealing of the Spirit that marks the beginning of ministry.

E. The ministry is drawing life from the Son of God. Jesus was the model for this ministry drawing upon God.

F. The believer's task with the gospel is to deal with the problem of guilt among men.

1. The good news is that we can claim a sense of forgiveness of sins.

2. The believer can offer this to others as well.

VI. Doubting Thomas voices the doubt that we all have sometimes about the resurrection.

A. After experiencing the evidences of the resurrection, Thomas believes Jesus is God and worships Him.

B. Jesus testifies to the efficacy of the written witness about Jesus' resurrection and the blessing that comes from believing it.

Application questions:

1. Explain the ministry of the Spirit.

2. How is the believer who believes Jesus without seeing Him blessed?

3. What is the importance of the bodily resurrection for the Christian believer?
