

Now What? Part 3

Recap

Risen Christ's first appearance.

Class 1 – What did he do?

Class 2 – What did he say?

John 20:19 ¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

The first gift that he gave them in what he said was, **The Gift of Peace.**

1. Peace between us and himself.
2. Peace between us and God.
3. Peace between us and other that are "in Christ."
4. Peace between us and ourselves.
5. Peace between us and the word.

Today we are going to take a look at the other two things that he said.

- And the two gift that he gave through them.
- The gift of Purpose and the gift of Power.

And the reason I spent so much time on peace ...

- Is that I am so totally persuaded from the bible
- That if you get that right.
- If you are standing there with that kind of fivefold peace.
- The things that you are called to do ...
- Purposefully and powerfully in the world will take their place.

But if you get that wrong ...

- All the power and the purpose in the world will do you no good
- Bring you no peace
- And will do people much harm!

So we have to get the order right.

Let's take a look at **The Gift of Purpose**

John 20:20-21 ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. (I am the one who died for you. It is through my dying for you, that you can have peace.) **The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.** ²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! **As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.**"

So there it is, the 2nd thing that he said and the 2nd gift that he gives them.

- The Gift of Purpose.

²¹ "... **As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.**"

- That is a BIG sentence.

Remember a couple of weeks ago we asked the question?

"Do you have a purpose that is really satisfying from beginning to end?"

A purpose that will take you into eternity; knowing that you spent your life well?"

That is the gift that he is giving (or offering) them here.

- The gift of Purpose.

He was offering them a purpose ...

- That would be satisfying from beginning to end.
- That would take them into eternity ...
- Knowing that they spent their life well.

²¹ "... **As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.**" (Explain with hands.)

The Father sent Jesus to be a light to the world.

- To be a light in a dark place.
- To be model as to what a God-glorifying ...
- God magnifying life looks like.

So I am sending you to be light to the world.

- I am sending you to be a light in a dark place.
- To be a model as to what a God-glorifying ...
- God magnifying life looks like.

He sent me as truth and I am now sending you as truth.

- He sent me as a witness, I am now sending you as a witness.
- He sent me to love, I am now sending you to love.

He sent me to magnify his name.

- As Jesus was facing imminent arrest, trial and crucifixion ...

He said, "...my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour.²⁸ Father, glorify your name!" **John 12:27–28**

As the Father has sent me to magnify his name.

- I am now sending you to Magnify his name.

As he has sent me to make him known ...

- I am now sending you to make him known.

He wants us to be him everywhere.

- He wants us to Be the Church. Everyday. Everywhere.
- To magnify him wherever we go in whatever we do.

John 4:34³⁴ "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me (To do the will of him who sent me) **AND to finish his work.**

What feeds me, what keeps me going, what gives me energy is ...

- To do the will of him who sent me ...

In **Matthew 16:21–23** it says,²¹ "From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

Hours before his betrayal in **Matthew 26:39** ³⁹ "... he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, "My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will."

Jesus food was to do the will of the Father.

John 5:19 ¹⁹ ... "The Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.

...

John 7:16 ¹⁶ ... "My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me."

...

John 12:49 ⁴⁹ "... I did not speak on my own, but the Father who sent me commanded me to say all that I have spoken."

...

John 4:34 ³⁴ "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me **AND to finish his work**."

What work?

1. To bring us the five fold peace we spoke of last time.
2. To remove the wrath of God from all those who are in him.
3. To justify those who are in him.
4. To provide righteousness for all those who are in him.
5. To break the power of death & bring life and immortality to light.
6. To obtain eternal redemption for all those who are in him.
7. To take away our sin.
8. To free us from our sin.
9. To bring healing to all those who are in him.
10. To make us a kingdom of Priests
11. To redeem us from an empty way of life.
12. To give us a new birth into a living hope.
13. To give us confidence to enter the most holy place

14. To enable all who are in him to no longer live for themselves, but to live for him who died for them.
15. To redeem us from all wickedness.
16. To purify for himself a people who are his very own, eager to do what is good.
17. To make us a new creation.
18. To bring us into the family of God.
19. So that all who are in him could become the righteousness of God.

The list just goes on and on and on.

2 Corinthians 5:18–20 ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them.

And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.

As the Father has sent me to I am now sending you.

- And I am entrusting to you the ministry of reconciliation.
- God is making his appeal to the world through you!

That is BIG!!!

He was giving them and us a purpose ...

- That would be satisfying from beginning to end.
- That would take us into eternity ...
- Knowing that we spent our lives well.

That all sounds good and well ...

- But, how is sinful, selfish, fallible me supposed to do that?

It will literally take some form of supernatural power ...

- For people like us to become people like that?

So, what are we to do?

Let's go back to John 20.

John 20:21–22 ²¹ Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

He first gave them their purpose.

- As the Father has sent me I am sending you.
- And then he gives them the power in and through the Holy Spirit ...
- To fulfill the purpose.

Remember

John 14:16–18 ... ¹⁶ I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you AND be with you forever—¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

And there and then he breathes on them the Holy Spirit.

- That would enable them to live out this purpose powerfully.

How about us?

- How about you and me? Can we get the Holy Spirit.
- Can what was breathed onto them be ours as well?

The crowd in Acts 2 had the same question.

- Can we be saved?
- Can we be a part of what it is that God is doing.

To which ³⁸ "Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call." **Acts 2:38–39**

Peters reply, REPENT – Me-ta-nou-way-o (Metanoeo)

- Inward change of heart and mind.
- I previously saw this as attractive, but now I don't ...

- And my behavior shows it.

And be baptized ...

- For the forgiveness of yours sins (so that that 5 fold peace can be yours)
- And that you may receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

We too have (if we are in Christ) the Holy Spirit that enables us ...

- To become who it is that we need to become
- And do what it is that we need to do.
- To fulfill our purpose of being minister of reconciliation.
- And magnifying God in every possible way.

Ephesians 1:18–20 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened ...

- That they eyes of your heart may be enlightened.
- Not the eyes of your head, but the eyes of your heart.

You can easily read the scriptures (the gospel truths)

- With the eyes of your head and still miss it.
- I have seen this again and again.

Therefore he says, "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened"

- Why? What is it that he wants us to see?

"I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened" in order that you may know ...

(know what?)

In order that you may know ...

⁽¹⁾ the hope to which he has called you (the fivefold peace)

In order that you may know ...

⁽²⁾ the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and

- You get to be a part of God's people.
- And having this glorious purpose of being ministers of reconciliation ...
- Of being a light in this dark world, of bring truth ...
- Off being the church, every day, everywhere.

In order that you may know ...

⁽³⁾ his incomparably great power for us who believe.

Then he describes the power available to those who are in Christ.

That power is the same as the mighty strength he (God) exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms ...

That power that raised Christ from the dead.

- Is available in and through the Holy Spirit to all who are in Jesus.

So if you are a disciple Jesus.

- And you have submitted your life to his Rule and Reign.
- Because is your greatest treasure, joy and delight.
- And you have repented, have had a change of mind.
- And got baptized into Christ.
- Your sins have been washed away and ...
- You have received the gift of his wonderful Spirit

Enabling you to live out a purpose that will echo into eternity.

Rich Ruler

Moses