

11.25.07 Today's Jesus # 144 He has risen, just as he said!

- **Luk 24:1-43; Mat 28:1-15; Mar 16:1-12** -

**** Beginning Remarks**

****Scripture Reading: Luk 24:1-43**

1. Why do you look for the living among the dead?<5>

Jesus Christ died but in the flesh. He is the eternal living God; to show that "the dead will be raised", he had his spirit leave his body temporarily for the revelation of his "resurrection" three days after. The soul never dies. The souls of those who have been in the world are still living: some are in paradise and others in hell but all will resurrect to face eternal judgment. All who do not believe in Jesus Christ cannot escape the pains and anguish of the eternal fiery lake; all who believe in Jesus Christ and are the people of God will also go through "the judgment in the assembly of the righteous" and thereafter serve God forever with their given crowns and inheritance.

1) Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.<1Cor 15:20>

* Christ proved with his resurrection that all will be raised.

- The soul never dies (the resurrection of Lazarus / revelation of Moses and Elijah on the Mount of Transfiguration / When Jesus Christ gave up his spirit on the cross, many holy people who had died in Christ were raised to life)

- Who am I? I am not this visible body but the invisible life; my personality, motives, goals and contents of my life are the essence of my true life.

- When we are raised to life, we'll bring with us our "lives, personalities and contents" that we received while on earth.

=> Therefore, while I am still here in this body, I'll focus all my efforts on "gaining a more beautiful life in Christ".

2) Christ's resurrection has changed the "life, identity, belonging, inheritance and destiny" of his body (holy saints).

- His resurrection has solved the problem of "sin and death" forever = including judgment, condemnation, poverty, sickness and death... (holy saints have to dwell on why Lord Christ suffered the undeserved judgment, the severe punishment, condemnation and death and was buried for three days and then raised to life.)

- All who have been found in Christ live under the "law of the Spirit of life and grace and that of "in all things God works for the good of those who love him".

=> Therefore, all the holy saints who are already in Christ and have been raised to life (born again) have to look at everything from the perspective of "God's grace and love".....

3) The Holy Spirit comes to dwell in all the holy saints who believe in Christ only after his resurrection and ascension.

- Christ has accomplished the great work as the Son of God and the Son of Man (the Word becoming flesh in him, death and resurrection, reigning over the throne).

- Therefore, he has accomplished all things God the Father predestined in the prophecies of the O.T. before the creation of this world.

- thereby revealing the mysteries of God in Trinity, Father, Son and the H.S.

- He has completely revealed the secrets of how one is born again, experiences Emmanuel, drives out demons, enjoys communion with God and walk with him, enjoys serving God and bears fruits of life, wins souls (saves, heals, and build up people), gains eternal rewards and inheritance.

=> Therefore, the Spirit of truth will come upon "all who believe in Jesus Christ". The secret that has been revealed cannot be hidden again. Therefore, the H.S. dwells in the holy saints forever after its descension at the Pentecost and preaches the gospel of Jesus Christ through all the saints. Through those who have heard and believed the H.S. continues to expand the work of "indwelling, moving, communion, empowering, driving out of the demons and fruit bearing".

2. Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us? <32>

It is an absolute fact that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, ascended heaven, and is given all the powers over heaven and earth and that the H.S. has descended and works everyday in the lives of the holy saints. All who, having heard the messages of the Christ and understood them, believe in and follow Christ can connect their lives to the source of the power of life in our Heavenly Father, Christ and the H.S. and enjoy all the blessings from above. When the two disciples on the road to Emmaus heard "the mysteries of the Christ in the Scriptures, their hearts were burning within them. Today we have similar experience, blessed as we are, when we were born again, whenever we dwell on and share the gospel of Christ...

1) When a holy person chosen by God hears the message of the gospel of the Cross <Eph 弗 1:4-14>

- ① fundamental problem → ② Jesus Christ → ③ blessings holy people should enjoy

- When a man knows God the Father, Christ, the H.S. / himself / secrets of being born again / this world and kingdom of heaven / his life and eternal things, then the Spirit of the Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Son, the Spirit of praying, the Spirit of love, and the Spirit of triumph forever as described in <Rom 8:1-39> will come upon him, dwells in and leads him...

testimonies of many saints (drunkards·)/ my testimonies..

2) When a holy saint who has been born again has gained a system of life and living

- ① meeting God/knowning God /Emmanuel (24 hr)→ ② communicating with God (any time and continuously)→ ③ walking with God (as to everything)

- Eph 1:4-14(God's doing 神為)→ 1:15-23(knowing Christ and oneself / hope, inheritance and power)→ 2:1-22(born again, joined up with Israel)

→ 3:14-21(all my conditions are evidence of Christ's love /power of the H.S.)→ 5:15-21(test and approve God's good will, be filled w/ the H.S., and witness to God)

→ 4:1-6:9(God's good will in seven fields of living)→ 6:10-24(secrets of triumph /evangelization of family, region and world)

- 20 basic lessons of Christian Life Church

= 1-10 lessons (knowing God and oneself /Emmanuel)→ 11-15 lessons (how to communicate w/ God)→ 16-20 lessons (how to walk w/ God)

Job's testimony / my testimony / testimonies of many disciples..

3) When a blessed disciple understands the contents of the entire bible from Christ's perspective

- the two disciples on the road to Emmaus <Luk 24:13-35>/ Paul <Acts 9:1-22>/ Apollos <Acts 18:24-28>

- Paul's discipleship training in Antioch <Acts 11:19-30>, at the Hall of Tyrannus in Ephesus <19:8-20>, and in Rome <28:30-31>

- the church in Antioch raising five teachers <徒 13:1-3>= was able to send out Paul and Barnabas / entrusted with the great mission of world evangelization

=> Teachers of the Bible will be raised up who will revive the churches of the 21st century and restore Emmanuel to the holy people of God.

** in particular, teachers who are able to make spiritual judgment about all things and history of mankind from Christ's perspective

3. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high <49>

Christ resurrects everyday in the lives and living of those who believe in him! For a born again holy saint, the Spirit of God will move him whenever he is willing to listen to his voice. As a result, his spirit will come to life and he'll be able to enjoy the wisdom and power from above. In particular, they will be able to enjoy more the leading of the H.S. in a more correct, specific and practical way who have gained the system of life and thoughts rooted and built up in Christ and strive to seek how to walk with God according to the principles of a blessed life. The degree of a saint's sanctification is measured by the extent to which a holy saint is able to enjoy the "resurrected life and resurrected power" in his daily living!

1) Enjoy in the H.S. the great power of Christ's resurrection all the time

* In many places of the Bible there is an emphasis on the resurrected Lord Christ who is sitting at the right hand of the throne of God and praying for us <Rom 8:34>. This is the absolute fact on which all thoughts, principles of living and methods of living of born-again saints should be based!

- Therefore, the Lord continues to exhort us: "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God." <Col 3:1-3> "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith." <Heb 12:2> "Therefore, strengthen your feeble arms and weak knees." <Heb 12:12> "Do not put out the Spirit's fire." <1Th 5:19> "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God." <Eph 4:30> "Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is... Instead, be filled with the Spirit." <Eph 5:17-18> "But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you." <Mat 12:28> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you" <Act 1:8> "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests... <Eph 6:18>

2) The most important is to master how to act on the Holy Spirit!

① **To reconfirm that we have the seal of the H.S.:** All have the seal of the H.S. who have heard the gospel and believed.

- We have to confirm evidence of the presence of the H.S. in us=hunger and thirst for righteousness, God, heavenly kingdom and spiritual things.

- At the moment of understanding the gospel, we are totally changed, i.e., the way we view God, ourselves, and the world.

- "And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit." <Eph 1:13> "No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit." <1Cor 12:3> no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again.... No one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit." <Joh 3:3-6>

② **We have to know the good will of the H.S.:** the more we know the secrets of Jesus Christ, the more we'll know the good will of the H.S.

- The Bible emphasizes acting on the H.S. as well as living not as unwise but as wise. <Eph 5:15-18>;

- The H.S. is "the Spirit of Truth." <Joh 14:17> But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. <Joh 16:13> It will "remind you of everything I have said to you." <Joh 14:26>

- The H.S. the spirit that testifies about Jesus Christ: "When the Counselor comes, ... he will testify about me. <Joh 15:26> Therefore, the H.H. is the secret of "the Word becoming flesh

in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection and his reign over on the Throne.” When the secret has been completely revealed, the H.S. will come upon the holy saints who believe in Christ.

③ Need to trust in the leading of the H.S.: Even though we have the indwelling of the H.S. and know the secrets of Christ, we are still dependent on the H.S. acting.

- “Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests” <Eph 6:18> “Do not put out the Spirit’s fire.” <1Th 5:19>

- Those who are born again and know God’s good will can see the working of the H.S. as long as they are willing to listen quietly to the voice of God.

④ Need to obey the promptings of the H.S.: the born again will often experience the battling of the two laws within.

- “So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit...” <Gal 5:16-17>

- At the same time I give up the things of the flesh and obey the good will of the H.S., I will see the display of “the power of the H.S.” in my life.

⑤ Need to confirm the fruit of the H.S.: When I can confirm the fruit of the H.S. in my heart and mind, I will know that God is pleased with what I have done.

- “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” <Gal 5:22-23>

- Will see God continuously leading and accomplishing.

3) Praying at a fixed time → praying any time → concentrated praying → praying at a fixed time

- the weekly scheduled worship: Sunday worship, praying meeting, weekly meeting, meeting for Sunday Bulletin, cell group

- personal altar: scheduled weekly prayer time/ scheduled daily prayer time

- When our fixed-time prayers are answered, we will enjoy Emmanuel 24 hours, communicate with God and walk with God (praying any time).

- When our any-time prayers are answered, we will find out when to pray our concentrated prayers, e.g., before the occurrence of important events, in face of contradictions and problems, at a turning point and in prayer for others.

- When our concentrated prayers are answered, we will continue to remain in “Emmanuel 24 hours, communication with God and walk with God.”

4) Master more and more the secret of doing what is to be done happily and joyfully

- The result of enjoying the power of the gospel is to “be joyful always; pray continually; and give thanks in all circumstances.” <1Th 5:16-18>

- The theme of <Ecclesiastes >: In God do “whatever your hand finds to do”; that’s the reward and that’s enjoying the blessing. <Ecc 9:7-10>

= How do we enjoy doing what our hand finds to do? = Play our role well in God (as children of God, royal priests, husbands, wives, parents, children, body of Christ, relatives, workers, pastors, elders and deacons)

**** Concluding Remarks**

****Prayers of the Week ****

1) Saints vary as to their ability to enjoy “the resurrected life and the power of resurrection”: *What does Jesus Christ’s resurrection have to do with my life? At present how much can I enjoy “the power of resurrection”? In all my conditions, relationships, fields of living and circumstances how much am I restored to “the meaning of Christ’s resurrection”?*

2) Our ability to enjoy the power of resurrection is directly proportional to the degree of our mastery of life messages and our establishment of a thought system: *do I have a firm grip on a system of “meeting/knowing God → communicating with God → walking with God”? Do I hunger and thirst for God’s word? What’s the relationship between my knowing more of God’s word and my enjoying the power of Christ’s resurrection?*

3) Enjoy in the Spirit the great power of Christ’s resurrection at any time: *Can I explain how the Spirit starts to work in my heart and mind, thereby giving me power and victory when I trust in him? Do I know the secret of “praying at a fixed time → praying any time → praying concentrated prayers → praying any time”? Diagnose: what’s the ratio of wisdom and joy to foolishness and worry in your life today...*