

Remember His Word (God's Not Done)

The Gospel According to Luke

M. 8

Luke 24:1-12; 22:54-62; 22:31-34

Introduction

Easter represents the time we set aside to remember that we have a risen Savior. We do not memorialize a long-dead and buried leader, but a crucified, buried and risen again King of kings and Lord of lords.

Throughout this service, we read through Luke 24. The chapter opens with the record of several devout women followers of Jesus going to the tomb early in the morning to prepare His body further. Had they remembered His word, they would not have made the journey that day, just as His other disciples would not have been hiding, overwhelmed with grief and fear. At least six texts reveal that Jesus taught them that He would suffer, die, and rise again.

Bible

(21) From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes,

and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Matthew 16:21 - KJV

Introduction

"From that time forth" means that Jesus continually taught His disciples these things right up until the time it happened. Yet, when the women arrived at the tomb, found the stone rolled away, discovered that Jesus's body was gone, and were confronted by two angels, they were perplexed and afraid. That is until they what? Could you look at Luke 24:6-8?

Bible

*(6) He is not here, but is risen: **remember** how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, (7) Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. (8) **And they remembered his words,***

Luke 24:6-8 - KJV

Introduction

He taught them that what had happened would happen, but they only remembered His words now. When they remembered His words, their perspective, and outlook changed.

These women weren't the first to experience remembering His word during Passion Week.

Another of His disciples had a similar experience. Could you look with me at Luke 22, beginning with verse 54?

Bible

*(54) Then took they him, and led him, and brought him into the high priest's house. And Peter followed afar off. (55) And when they had kindled a fire in the midst of the hall, and were set down together, Peter sat down among them. (56) But a certain maid beheld him as he sat by the fire, and earnestly looked upon him, and said, This man was also with him. (57) And he denied him, saying, Woman, I know him not. (58) And after a little while another saw him, and said, Thou art also of them. And Peter said, Man, I am not. (59) And about the space of one hour after another confidently affirmed, saying, Of a truth this fellow also was with him: for he is a Galilæan. (60) And Peter said, Man, I know not what thou sayest. And immediately, while he yet spake, the cock crew. (61) And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. **And Peter remembered the word of the Lord**, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice. (62) And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.*

Luke 22:54-62 - KJV

Introduction

Peter and ten of Jesus's other disciples accompanied Him, after they ate the Passover meal, to the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed about His coming trial. Judas Iscariot led Temple soldiers to that place to turn Jesus over to them. When Jesus was led away, Peter followed and did precisely what Jesus said he would. When confronted, he denied the Lord. This strong, self-confident man who declared he would die with Jesus crumbled before a servant girl and would not even claim his Lord. At that moment, the cock crew, Peter, looked

about and saw Jesus, and Jesus's words came flooding back to his mind. Overwhelmed, Peter fled from that place and fell to pieces. By itself, this account feels discouraging. What kind of an Easter message at a Sunrise Service will we get from this?

Look back a little further to Luke 22:31, and we will see the message God wants you to receive today. The message that Peter needed at that moment had already been given. Today, the message we need on Resurrection Sunday 2023 has already been given. We do not need to hear some new thing. We need to remember what He has already said. The message of Luke 22:31-34 connects with the Resurrection to declare this: **God's Not Done**.

Yes, Jesus died on the cross, and just before He did, He cried, "It is finished." The work of redemption through Jesus's atoning sacrifice, by which He satisfied the wrath and justice of God against sin, took care of our salvation. So, it is finished. However, God's work is not done.

Today, the message we need on Resurrection Sunday is a message that calls us to remember His word that declares to us as His resurrection declares to us that God's Not Done.

Luke 22:31 stages a scene at the end of the Passover meal before Jesus and His disciples traveled to the Garden of Gethsemane. Follow along as I read Luke 22:31-34.

Bible

(31) And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: (32) But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. (33) And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. (34) And he said, I tell thee,

Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.

Luke 22:31-34 - KJV

Introduction

When Jesus spoke to Peter, He did not simply tell him that he would deny. He said that though he would deny, God's Not Done. Jesus's message to Peter connects with our lives today. Let's remember His word as we consider the three themes Jesus addressed in this message.

1. Jesus spoke a word about ATTACK (v. 31)

Bible

(31) And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:

Luke 22:31 - KJV

Explanation

Jesus issued a warning to Peter that he was Satan's target.

A. Satan's Request

Explanation

"Hath desired" means to demand. It identifies demanding or asking something of another person. Satan needed God's approval to interact in Peter's life, as illustrated in Job's life according to Job 1.

Application

Satan has no power to do anything in a believer's life apart from God's approval. Why, then, would God allow this? Though Satan has his purpose, God also has His.

B. Satan's Reason

Explanation

"That he may sift you as wheat" identifies Satan's desire to destroy Peter. He wanted to take Peter down so that he could not be effective for Jesus later.

In verse 31, "you" translates the Greek pronoun, which is plural in the original. Though Jesus addressed Peter directly, the message was for all His followers.

Bible

(8) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

1 Peter 5:8 - KJV

Application

Satan's your enemy. He's on the attack. He wants to do to you what he wanted to do to Peter and the other disciples.

2. Jesus spoke a word of ASSURANCE (v. 32a)

Bible

(32) But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not...

Luke 22:32 - KJV

Explanation

Jesus declared that, in light of the attack of Satan on Peter and the others, He prayed for Peter.

This represents a primary, pertinent, and passionate ministry of Jesus to His followers.

Later that very night, Jesus prayed for His followers then and now.

Bible

(9) I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.

John 17:9 - KJV

*(20) Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me
through their word;*

John 17:20 - KJV

Explanation

Between verses 9 and 20 and after verse 20, Jesus prayed for His followers then and now. He prayed that His followers would be kept (watched over, taken care of, guarded), sanctified, and unified.

Application

We can live with the assurance that, no matter what we're facing or going through, Jesus prays for us.

3. Jesus spoke a word of AVAILABILITY (v. 32b)

Bible

(32) ...and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Luke 22:32 - KJV

A. Repentance is available

Explanation

"Converted" in this text means to revert, turn back, or turn around.

Though a saved man, Peter would start down a wrong road that would jeopardize his discipleship. He denied the Lord, but the Lord would not deny him. He would repent and be forgiven.

B. Restoration is available

Explanation

Jesus told Peter he would be attacked but that his failure would not disqualify and destroy him. He would fail, but he would be forgiven and restored through repentance. Already, Jesus was prepared with the work He would have Peter do after his denial.

Even though Jesus knew what Peter would do (v. 34), it did not change Jesus's heart toward Peter at all. He still wanted to be close to Peter, and Peter to be close to Him.

Application

The message Jesus preached to Peter was this: You will be attacked and knocked down, but I've prayed for you, and when you repent, you can serve me and be used. God's not done with you!

This Resurrection Sunday, some of us need that message. You may have been attacked, or you're under attack. You've been knocked down. You've denied Jesus by your words or actions.

Satan wants to destroy you. He wants to leave you discouraged, depressed and defeated. He'll tell you that God doesn't love you, doesn't want you, or can't use you. He'll let you know that you're a failure, you've always been a failure, and only be a failure. Today, Satan has been telling some of you those things, and you've been listening.

Please remember Jesus's words. You've been attacked and knocked down. It doesn't mean you're done. The resurrection declares the opposite. It declares God's not done! Jesus's message of Peter's failure, repentance, and usefulness gives hope to all of us who have been knocked down. Jesus offers forgiveness and restoration through repentance.

Today, let the message of Jesus's resurrection drive you to remember His words.

Bible

(16) Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Colossians 3:16 - KJV

Conclusion

Everyone listening, whether here in the auditorium or via the internet, needs this message somehow.

If you have believed in Jesus, you've experienced Satanic attacks and been knocked down sometimes. Have you been listening to Satan's lies about your experience? Would you stop

listening to his lies and start remembering Jesus's words? Repentance and restoration are available for you. God's not done with you.

Have you believed in Jesus? Someone here or listening on the internet has never been saved. Jesus came, died, and rose again to make a way for you to God, the only way to God. You can be saved today through a decision to trust in Jesus as your Savior Who forgives your sin. Call out to Him, and He will save you.

Lord's Supper

As we prepare to partake of the Lord's table, let me remind you of our practice here at Cornerstone Independent Baptist Church.

Anyone in this service who has trusted Jesus Christ as his Savior may partake with us. You do not need to be a member of this church, but you must have a personal relationship with Jesus by virtue of calling upon Him, believing that He died for your sins, was buried, and rose again three days later. Young children who have professed faith in Christ may partake under the supervision of their parents.

Let me remind you that this is a serious time, but it is also a celebration. We are called upon to remember what Christ did for us and what His sacrifice provided for us. As we approach the table, it is the responsibility of each one of us individually to make sure that we are participating in a way that would please the Lord.

I would ask the men to come forward as we prepare to distribute the elements.

Jesus said in Matthew 26:26, “And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples....”

Deacon will ask the blessing over the bread, thanking the Lord for His body broken for us.

Pass out the element.

I Corinthians 11:24 says, “ And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.”

In Matthew 26:27, we read, “And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them....”

Deacon will ask the blessing over the cup thanking the Lord for His shed blood.

Pass out the element.

I Corinthians 11:25, “After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.”

The Scripture tells us that before they went out, they sang a hymn. Before we conclude, let's sing together the first and last verses of...