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Rejoice and be glad. Jesus Commissioned His Apostles in Luke 24:46-49 - - -

46 And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:

47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

48 And ye are witnesses of these things.

49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Look at these scriptures one at a time and notice the words - It is Written, and Thus, it Behoved Christ, Suffer, Rise from the dead the Third day, Repentance, Remission of sins, Preached, In His Name, Among All Nations, Beginning at Jerusalem, Ye are Witnesses, Of these Things, Behold, I send, the Promise, Of My Father, Upon You, Tarry, in City, of Jerusalem, Until, Endued, Power, from on High.

Believing Jesus in the above verses is a test of **your respect for the cross**. Your Faith, Sincerity, Loyalty, Love, and Your Respect are tested by what you do to obey Jesus works of faith He outlined in His doctrine.

Jesus explained the reason for the cross, **"It is written."** It was God's detailed plan for **Himself** to square off with the devil in the body of a man. Enjoy reading the following in Isaiah chapter 53. Read it and weep.

9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.

10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant *justify many*; for **he shall bear their iniquities**.

That's Amazing!

God made intercession for those fighting against Him. Now that is Love! This is God's definition of the word "SO" in GOD SO LOVED the world. It reveals the measure of how much love God has for the highest of His creation. Remember we are in His Image and after His Likeness. **We wear His badge of honor**. We are not like a dumb animal but can think and rise to higher heights in Him.

When Jesus said "it is finished" He saw in His Mind the freedom He had to forgive "whosoever will" that would come to Him. And it was all legal. God became man and died in mans place. The "Price" for sin was paid by a man. Now - He is "Just" in forgiving man's sins. No one else would be qualified nor justified to do this. No one can point their finger at God and say He is not doing right. The "SO" in God so loved the world is the same as in God is "SO" legally right. And He knows it.

Today He is not the Jesus on the shores of Galilee. Looking unto Jesus means you are looking at the Jesus Who reigns in heaven. Phil 3:20 For our conversation is **in heaven**; from whence also **we look** for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Luke wrote his Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles. To anchor in Jesus you can not step away from Luke's two books. Some try to start with our day and work back to the Bible. This is a pitfall. As you come away from the Bible in time, you get away from the pure Word and into supposition. Historians believe in Bible times they baptized using the words Father, Son and Holy Ghost. **They did not**. This is why I say when you step back to 200-300 AD it becomes a pit fall. You fall away from truth.

Wear the badge of honor He pinned on us in Luke 24:46-49.