

The Last Words of the First “Sent One”

John 20:19-22 ESV and Select Scriptures

Text: John 20:19-22 ESV

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

Main Idea

As we look at the way John summarized Jesus' last words, we can learn 4 things: (1) The first Sent One was Jesus Christ; (2) the Body of Christ is the Church; (3) the Church is you; (4) therefore you are a sent one.

I. The First Sent One was Jesus Christ

Our God is...

A. ...a “sending” God: “to send,” is used about 800 times in Scripture. God sends Abraham, Jonah, Moses, Isaiah, His angels, JESUS, Jesus disciples, etc.

B. ...a “sent” God (John 3:17; John 20:21)

“For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.”

“As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.”

II. The Body of Christ is the Church

God is a Sent and Sending God; His Church should embody His character and mission.

- *“I have become all things to all men, that by all means, I might save some.” (1 Cor 9:22b)*
- *“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father, except through me.” (Jn 14:6)*

III. The Church is YOU

So, here is what we see in *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts*: (1) God the Father sending the Son; (2) God the Father and the Son sending the Spirit; (3) God the Father and the Son and the Spirit sending the Church.

IV. Therefore, You are a Sent One

“And you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in Judea and in Samaria and to the uttermost parts of the world.” (Acts 1:8)

You are a Sent One

If you are a believer, you ARE the church, and you ARE a “sent one.” Jesus was talking to YOU in His lasting last words. You have been sent by Jesus.

Why is the Northeast so lost?

We do NOT have a harvest problem, we have a laborer problem.

“And he said to them, ‘The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Luke 10:2)

Last Words of First Sent One