

Peace be with you

“Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord” (John 20: 19, 20) In the previous verses, John writes about the resurrected Christ. He was crucified, carrying upon himself our iniquity, sicknesses, curses, sadness, paying the price for us to have eternal life. “Surely He has borne our grief and carried our sorrows; ... But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.” (Is. 53: 4, 5). The Lord’s promise is to fill us with his peace notwithstanding surrounding circumstances. The condition to obtain this peace is to come in true repentance and open our hearts to Him.

Despite the fact that one of the disciples had already denied him, and the rest choosing to lock themselves in hiding, Jesus came to them and said the following words:

1. “Peace be with you!” The Lord uttered these words to dispel fear.

The Lord is able fill us with peace that dispels all kinds of fear that assails us; whether fear of the future, sicknesses, financial, or work related matters.

Jesus stood in their midst and showed them his hands, the same hands that worked miracles previously. Also his wounded side which reveals his broken heart full of love for us. This he did to prove to them that He is the one and same Jesus they had known.

2. “Peace to you!” the Lord uttered these words to send us out to the ministry work in his kingdom

“So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”(John 20:21). The Lord is calling us to take up his yoke for His yoke is easy and His burden is light and he will strengthen us to be able to bear hardships as a good soldier in the Lord’s army. We will then experience the peace of the Lord and deliver it to many families. As He calls us, he will enable us. We just need to be available so that the Lord can equip us with strength and wisdom, and send us out to minister. Even if it is hard work, it will still be sweet labor. His angels will watch over us for the Lord truly cares for us!

3. “Peace to you!” to overcome our doubts

“And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, ‘Peace to you!’ Then He said to Thomas, ‘Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.’ And Thomas answered and said to Him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ (John 20:26-28). Thomas was not with the disciples during Jesus’ previous appearances and he did not believe that they saw the Lord. The best remedy to attacks of doubt is attending spiritual meetings in which the Holy Spirit is at work.

The Lord uttered these words of peace to dispel all thoughts of doubt. The Lord creates in us faith through the power of his word, working in us by the Holy Spirit turning us into believers filled with faith in his promises, knowing that he has deliverances from death. So, without faith we lose our peace.

“Whom having not seen, you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory” (1 Pet.1:8). Pray and ask the Lord to increase your faith to live the life of joy. Tell Him: ‘you are my healer, help, comfort, strength, peace and joy’

Thank you Lord for loving me and giving me your peace that surpasses all understanding;

Thank you for setting me free from fear

Thank you for sending me to work in your vineyard;

Thank you for sustaining me with your precious promises to overcome doubt;

Thank you for filling me up with the joy of the Holy Spirit.

