

# “A SUNDAY LIKE NONE OTHER”

**Text:** Luke 24:36:53

**Subject:** How Jesus Renewed His Disciples In A Time Of Uncertainty.

## Introduction

**(This appearance of Jesus to His disciples is noteworthy.)**

1. It is the first resurrection appearance of Jesus to all the disciples at once.
2. It takes place at night, the very night of the day of the Lord's resurrection.
3. It follows Jesus appearing to Mary Magdalene (John 20:14), the woman at the tomb (Matthew 28:1), the two walking to Emmaus (Luke 24:1), and Simon Peter (Luke 24:34).
4. It is an appearance that ministers to us all today.

**Question:** How does Luke 24:36 minister to us?

**Answer:** Because Jesus is unchangeable, He wants us to understand this truth:

- That what Jesus was to His disciples in the days of his flesh, He will be to us in this present hour. (Repeat)

**Question:** Why did Jesus show up this Sunday evening?

**Question:** What did Jesus promise on this night?

**Question:** And how does it affect your life and mine?

**Question:** What is so beautiful and wonderful about Luke 24:36: *“And as they thus spake, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them.”?*

**(Two things amaze us here.)**

1. The appearance of Jesus was **“Unexpected”**.
  - The disciples were huddled together in an upper room.
  - The disciples (minus Thomas) were gathered together (v.33) on Sunday.
  - The eleven disciples (plus others) found themselves in a season of transition.

**Question:** What was going on in their minds?

**Answer:** John records that these believers were assembled together *“For fear of the Jews”* (John 20:19)

**(In other words)**

- These believers were full of fear and tension.
- They dreaded the Jewish rulers who crucified Jesus.
- They were uncertain about their tomorrows.
- They were experiencing sorrow, disappointment and unfulfilled expectations (Ever have any?)

**(And in the midst of those assembled):**

♦ Jesus shows up unexpectedly! ♦ And Jesus still shows up unexpectedly today!

2. The appearance of Jesus was **“Undeserved”**

**Question:** Why was the appearance undeserved?

**Answer:** Because the eleven huddled together...

1. Had fled from Jesus at his betrayal.
2. Had deserted Jesus at his trial.
3. Had turned and ran at Jesus' crucifixion.
4. Had doubted his promise of rising from the dead. **(In other words)**

- Those assembled didn't earn or merit Jesus showing up to them.
- **And you and I don't deserve Jesus showing up for us.**

**Question:** But, how many of you thank God for grace undeserved today?

**Question:** How many of you are grateful for Psalm 103:10 *"God has not dealt with us after our sins, nor rewarded us according to our iniquities."*?

**(And v. 11)**

*"For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him."*

**(And v. 12)**

*"As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us."*

- So Jesus appears in the midst of people like you and me.
- Jesus appears in the midst of those He loves and says, *"Peace be still."* (v. 36)
- Jesus asks a question in v. 38, *"Why are you so troubled and why do thoughts arise in your heart?"*
- And then Jesus emphasizes three things He wants us all to understand.
- Three things that pertain to you.
- Three things that affect the way you live.
- Three things that make a healthy person.

**Question:** What are the three absolutes that Jesus wants me to understand?

## **I. Personal Repentance (v. 47)**

In v. 47, Jesus said, *"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem."*

**Question:** What is this gift from God, the gift of repentance?

**Answer:** Repentance is the response of your heart to the working of the Holy Spirit.

1. It is the full return of your heart to God.
2. It is a genuine sorrow over anything questionable.
3. It is a forsaking of anything that quenches or grieves the Holy Spirit in your life.
4. It is you and me responding to the One who deserves our full attention.

**Question:** What's our motivation to fully respond to God whenever He deals with us?

**Answer:** Our motivation is written in v. 46, *"thus it is written, and thus **it behooved Christ to suffer.**" (In other words)*

- The sufferings of Jesus are our motivation.
- His life given at Calvary is our motivation.
- The price He paid in full is our incentive.
- What He's done already is enough to move me.

**Question:** What's the reward when we respond to God with repentance?

**Answer:** (v. 47) We receive remission of sins in His name (or on His merits and work).

**Question:** What is remission of sins?

**Answer:** Remission of sins is the total removal of all sin in the sight of God.

- Forgiveness without reserve.
- Mercy without limit.
- Pardon without measure.
- Privilege undeserved because of an act of God at Calvary.

**Question:** How many of you are grateful God has led you to repentance?

**(Jesus wants you to receive)**

## II. Unselfish Responsibility (v. 48)

In v. 48, Jesus said, *"And ye are witnesses of these things."*

**Question:** How many of you know that **privilege brings responsibility**?

**Question:** What's our **privilege**?

**Answer:** To be recipients of repentance and remission.

**Question:** What's our **responsibility** in response to our privilege?

**Answer:** (v. 48) *"Ye are witnesses of these things."*

**Question:** What does it mean that we are witnesses of these things?

**Answer:** It means two things.

1. We've witnessed the truth that Jesus has changed all of us from the inside out and,
2. We then bear witness of this truth to others (that what the Lord has done for us, He'll do for anyone).

**Question:** But Pastor, I'm weak and frail and full of limitations.

**Question:** How can God use me, little ol' me to bear witness of his saving grace?

**(Jesus wants you to receive)**

**1. Personal Repentance**

**2. Unselfish Responsibility**

## III. Spiritual Renewal (v. 49)

In v. 49, Jesus said, *"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."*

1. God gives us the **gift of repentance** and we respond to align ourselves with God.
2. God gives us **responsibility** in light of the great privileges we receive.
3. God tells us **how we can be responsible** people and carry out His will in our lives.

**Question:** What's the key ingredient to victorious Christian service?

**Question:** What's the needed equipment to work for the Lord?

**Question:** What is it that makes weak men and women strong in the Lord?

**Question:** How is it that God can use every one of us in the building of His church?

**Question:** What is the one essential necessity no matter what we do in life?

Luke 24:49: ***“The promise of the Father.”***

**Question:** What is the promise of the Father?

**Answer:** The baptism in the Holy Spirit!

(v. 49) *“Tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until (what?) you are endued with power from on high.”*

**In other words – disciples (then and now)**

◆ “I will so fill you with My Spirit that you will be completely adequate to perform your tasks:”

**“Endued with power from on high” means:**

- ◆ God Himself is the source of your power.
- ◆ God Himself is the one who fills you.
- ◆ God Himself is the one who endues you.
- ◆ God Himself is the one who clothes you.
- ◆ God Himself is the one who anoints you.
- ◆ God Himself is the one who baptizes you.

1. We accept responsibility for our own individual repentance.
2. We accept responsibility for our individual Christian service and,
3. We accept responsibility for our own Pentecostal baptism, spiritual renewal and spirit-filled life.

**(What Jesus told believers then – I’ll tell you the same now)**

- Don’t go until you are clothed with power from on high!
- And if you’ve been baptized in the Holy Spirit, remember Acts 4:33...
- *“That the Spirit continued to fill believers over and over again with great power.”*
- We’re not talking about emotion.
- We’re not talking about talent.
- We’re not talking about personality.

**(We are talking about...)**

- You being clothed with the Holy Spirit from on high!

**Question:** What is this promise of the Father?

**Answer:** ***“You shall be baptized in the Holy Spirit.”***

- It is the promise of John the Baptist (Matthew 3:11)
  - It is the promise of Peter (Acts 2:39)
  - It is the promise of Jesus (John 15:26)
  - It is the promise of the Father and Father cannot lie (or He would not be our Father and our God).
1. In Acts 2:4, 120 people were baptized in the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost and spoke in other tongues.
  2. In Acts 8:17, the Samaritan believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues.
  3. In Acts 9:17, Ananias laid hands on Paul and he was baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues (I Corinthians 14:18)
  4. In Acts 10:44-48, the gentiles at Cornelius’ house were baptized in the Holy Spirit spoke in tongues and magnified God.

5. In Acts 19:6, the disciples in Ephesus were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues.

**(Five different occasions over a 30 year period)**

**Question:** Pastor, what is this Holy Spirit baptism?

**Answer:** It is not a great knowledge of the Bible.  
It is not enthusiasm.  
It is not natural ability.

**(This baptism in the Holy Spirit is)**

- You and I being clothed with the Spirit of God.
- It is you and I being energized for service in God's Kingdom.
- It is not a goal (but a gateway into spirit-filled living, praying and service).

**Question:** Why is it so important?

**Answer:** Because it is a precious gift from God that God wants all to receive.

***"For this promise is unto you, and to your children and to all that are afar off."***

**(Ephesians 5:18)** *"Be continually filled with the Holy Spirit."*

**(John 7:38, 39)** *"He that believeth on me as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. But this spake He of the Spirit, **which they that believe on Him should receive.**"*

**(What are we saying today?)**

1. **Repentance** (How many of you are willing to ask God for forgiveness of sin?)
2. **Responsibility** (How many of you are willing to serve the Lord wherever He places you?)
3. **Renewal:** (How many of you want to be endued with power from on high to do God's will and not your own?)

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