

041722 "Witness of the Resurrection" Luke 24:1-12

Hallelujah!! Christ is risen! Grace and peace be with you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ on this morning of the resurrection! We had Lent until yesterday. I believe you have worked hard to meditate reverently on the suffering of the Lord during Lent. Dear sisters and brothers in Christ, please always remember the suffering of Jesus on the cross when suffering comes into your life. And I bless you in the name of Jesus Christ that you will not only see the suffering itself, but see God's salvation and God's good guidance behind the hardships!

According to the Gospel of Luke chapter 24, the women prepared spices and went to the tomb. When we consider the word "prepared", there is a contrast in the story of Jesus' suffering. In Luke 22, Judas Iscariot also prepared. He carefully prepared to sell Jesus. Luke 22:4 says, "And Judas went to the chief priests and the officers of the temple guard and discussed with them how he might betray Jesus." And verse 6 says, "He consented, and watched for an opportunity to hand Jesus over to them when no crowd was present." Judas was very meticulous in his preparation.

On the other hand, these women "prepared" for the Lord. If you look at the original Greek Bible, grammatically the past perfect verb is used. It means they were preparing this! It wasn't "spontaneous action." Just as Judas Iscariot planned and prepared to sell Jesus, these women planned and prepared for Jesus' burial.

When you see the word "holy" in the Hebrew Bible, it means to "set apart preciously". It can also be changed to "prepare preciously" in today's text. People live by preparing what they usually care about. Some are preparing for

marriage, others are preparing for college entrance, and others are preparing for a master's or doctoral program. Some people are preparing to greatly increase their businesses. Sometimes people prepare for a promotion or prepare for retirement. But what we should ask ourselves is whether it really has to do with Jesus, the master of our life. I want you to ask yourself, does this work have to do with the Lord, and is this work for the Lord?

Verse 5 says, "and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living One among the dead?"

In verse 5, the word "look for" in Greek, [zetheo], and its meaning is "earnestly pursuing or longing for". When the women prepared spices for the Lord, it was done with the Lord's dead body in mind. Here's something to think about. The Lord is the one who prepares for greater things even when we come to Him in the midst of our shortcomings. The women came out hoping for the lifeless body of the Lord, but the Lord was not there, he was risen!

The latter part of verse 5 literally means this. "Why are you looking for someone who is alive among the dead?" It means, you're looking for him in the wrong place. If you think about it, there are times when we too are looking for things in the wrong places. There are many people who are looking for life in the perishables of the world. In many cases today, it can be money. It can be popularity, position, or knowledge. We work hard to find and seek, and we think those things will give us real strength, satisfaction, and vitality in our life. But if you make it the purpose of your life, it will surely end in vain! These things are necessary in our lives, but the Bible says that such things should not be the purpose of our lives.

[A missionary traveling to an indigenous village in Africa tried to translate the](#)

Bible into the tribal language. However, the missionary tried to translate the expression "I believe in Christ" into the language of the tribe, but was struggling because he could not find a suitable word. One day, while a missionary was trying to translate John 3:16, a villager came to him. He began to talk about what happened after he came to faith. During the conversation, the missionary asked what was the best expression for translating the word "believe" into a tribal language.

The villager who had been thinking for a while said "I think the best expression to describe the word "believe" is the word "sit down"." The missionary was startled and asked why he thought of those words. Then the man explained why: "Missionary, you are sitting on the chair right now. This is because you clearly believe that this chair supports you." The missionary was blessed by this man's answer and translated John 3:16 as follows: "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, so that whoever sat upon him shall not perish, but have eternal life."

I didn't see Jesus' resurrection with my own eyes. I didn't check the nails of Jesus with my own hands, but because of the gospel, the disciples who once cowardly denied the Lord or fled were changed and risked their lives to follow the Lord. Here, the early church was formed, and even today, many people are changing their lives because of the fact of the resurrection and the miracles that follow. The work of the life of the Holy Spirit continues to take place.

Today is Easter, so we are not talking about the resurrection faith only today. Christians must live each day 365 days a year in the Lord with the resurrection faith. A really important question in the lives of believers is, do I really believe, and do I believe at this moment? "Jesus said, I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live even if he dies, and whoever believes in

me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Dear beloved sisters and brothers in Christ, live like a Christian whose sins are forgiven in Jesus Christ. Jesus broke the authority of sin and death and gave the authority to become children of God to those who believe in Jesus as Lord and want to live according to His words! As we celebrate Easter Sunday today, you and I want to live as witnesses of the resurrection of Jesus. Many of the stories written in the Bible sound like tales at first. However, while believing in and looking at Jesus as the Lord and Savior, we experience the things that sounded like other people's stories to become our own! It is a journey of becoming a witness of Jesus.

Think about what you are preparing now, and relate that preparation to the Lord. And pray for God's help. Sit firmly on the promise of the gospel, the promise of resurrection. Because he is risen, we can face tomorrow! Fairfield Grace, may God's grace, peace, goodness, and mercy be with you and your family, and your business, and your studies, and with the lives of your children. Amen.