

Scripture: The Holy Law (Ex. 20) – Luke 24:36-49
Singing: 238:1-3 – 140:1 – 400:1-5 – 187:1 – 425:3, 5, 6

- A. Jesus is met with stunned silence and terrified hearts (Luke 24:37)
1. Observe His gentle ways to deliver them from troubling thoughts (38-45)
- B. Does Jesus still meet silence and fear when He proclaims His glorious Gospel?
1. He proclaims a clear Gospel: John 3:14-15; 5:24

2. He listens to hear your response: 1 Kings 18:21; Rev. 3:20
- C. How does the risen Lord Jesus deal with these false reasonings that mute us?
1. He *speaks* (44-45) and He *shows* (39-43)

Jesus' Comforting His people

I. He repeats His promises II. He shows His promises

I. Jesus comforts His people by challenging our thinking by His repeated promises

- A. How beautiful and gentle is Jesus' ministry: Luke 24:22-24, 34
1. This is the continuation of how He taught them: Luke 24:44a
a. review Luke 12:32; Matt. 5:45a, 48; 6:32; John 6:40

2. What was deepest reason for their doubts and struggles?
a. not the lack of faith God has given them in their new birth (Luke 24:21)

b. their problem was their *thinking – reasoning* (vs. 38)
3. One of the greatest culprits bringing spiritual depression is *lack of understanding of the doctrine of justification by faith*

B. Examine Romans 4:23-25 as one example of Jesus' teachings:

1. All sinners are saved the same: *by faith in God's promises* (Rom. 4:18-23)

a. when did Abraham trust God's promise? (vs. 19)

b. what did God *when* Abraham placed his trust on God's promise? (vs. 21)

2. What does God for you *when you like Abraham* trust Gospel promises?

a. though *barren in all godliness* though you tried to be godly

b. He imputes *the righteousness of Christ* to you upon your faith in Him (24-25)

II. He shows His promises (today) through His sacraments

A. The 'sacraments' are the Gospel promises in '*show and tell*' form (Luke 24:38, 43)

1. In the sacraments God stoops down to help us in our infirmities in faith

2. The sacramental message of Holy Baptism is for believers who struggle to rejoice in the message of "Peace be unto you!"

Gems about Justification by Faith

Nobody has understood Christianity
who does not understand the word 'justified'. (John Stott)

Justification is the very hinge and pillar of Christianity. (Thomas Watson)

Nothing so clears a man's spiritual sight as the apprehension and understanding of the doctrines of the Bible. Many people do not take the doctrines of the Scriptures in their right order. If you take the doctrine of regeneration before the doctrine of atonement, you will be in trouble. If you are interested in the rebirth and having new life, before you are clear about your standing with God, you will go wrong and you will eventually be miserable. The same applies to taking sanctification before justification. The doctrines must be taken in the right order. In other words, we can sum up all this by saying that the great cause of spiritual depressions is a refusal to think things right through. It is men and women who refuse to think things right through, and who do not want to learn, and who become unteachable for various reasons – often self-protection – these are the people who generally become victims of this spiritual confusion, this lack of clarity, this seeing and not seeing at the same time (like the man who saw men as trees walking.). M. Lloyd Jones.