

June 25

## *Jesus Gives the Disciples a Foretaste of the Spirit*

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I will have mercy on her who had not obtained mercy;  
and I will tell those who were not my people, 'You are my people;'  
and they will say, 'My God!' – Hosea 2:23

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[Luke 24:36-49, a house in Jerusalem, Sunday evening] As they sat at the table, and as they said these things, Jesus himself stood among them *(when the doors were locked where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews)* and said to them, "Peace be to you."

But they were terrified and filled with fear, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.

He said to them and rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart (because they didn't believe those who had seen him after he had risen) "Why are you troubled? Why do doubts arise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is truly me. Touch me and see, for a spirit doesn't have flesh and bones, as you see that I have." When he had said this, he showed them his hands, *his side*, and his feet. While they still didn't believe for joy, and wondered, he said to them, "Do you have anything here to eat?"

They gave him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. He took them, and ate in front of them. He said to them, "This is

what I told you, while I was still with you, that all things which are written in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms, concerning me must be fulfilled."

Then he opened their minds, that they might understand the Scriptures. He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name to all the nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Behold, I send forth the promise of my Father on you. But wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are clothed with power from on high."

*The disciples therefore were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus therefore said to them again, "Peace be to you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit! If you forgive anyone's sins, they have been forgiven them. If you retain anyone's sins, they have been retained."* [Mark 16:14, John 20:19-23]

1. How does Jesus rebuke the eleven? How is he kind? How does he commission them?
2. Have you been terrified? Did Jesus bring peace? Did he open your mind? How so?
3. Jesus, I need you to show up today and give me peace, please help as I'm sent out to...