"Jesus said to the women, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." - Matthew 28:10

LUKE 24:13-35

Jesus met up with two disciples who were on the road to Emmaus. This was apparently while He was on his way to meet up with the Eleven. Although He had places to be (Luke 24:28), He stayed on

BEYOND THE GRAVE: TENDER, COMPASSIONATE, RISEN

John 20:19ff

VSS. 19-20 "That same day..." Evening of Resurrection Day The disciples hiding in fear. Keep in mind this is only the 3rd day since the crucifixion

"Peace be with you" A common greeting and a reminder that "It is finished!"

The grace of the Lord overjoyed the disciples

THREE KEY STATEMENTS: VSS. 21-23

"As the Father has sent Me, so am I sending you." Matt 28:18-20

"Receive the Holy Spirit" The Spirit comes after Christ's departure Jn 7:39, 16:7 Just before His ascension, He said, "Wait..." Acts 1:4-5, 8 "If you forgive anyone..."

This is authority to declare with confidence that a person who repents of their sin and looks to Christ can know that their sins are forgiven. With that same confidence, one can declare with certainty that the unrepentant remains unforgiven.

> "Who can forgive sins but God alone? Mark 2:7



"Unless... I will not believe it!"

Thomas, who was missing when Jesus first showed himself, persisted in pessimism in spite of the claims of the women and the 11

Are you persisting in unbelief?

VSS. 26-29

One week later, still hidden behind locked doors suggests again that they had not received the Holy Spirit in vs. 22. See Acts 2 for contrast

Jesus graciously met Thomas in his doubt, leading to Thomas' declaration "My Lord and my God!"

"Blessed are those who have not seen..."

THE PURPOSE OF JOHN'S GOSPEL

"These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that **by believing you may have life in His name**."

The primary blessing available to his readers