THE DISCIPLES MEET THE RISEN LORD (John 20:19-23)

- I. His PRESENCE among Them (John 20:19)
 - A. It was EVENING on "that day"
 - B. The disciples were in a SECURE location because they were AFRAID
 - C. Jesus CAME and STOOD among them
- II. His PEACE to Them (John 20:19*c*-21*a*)
 - A. They had no reason to FEAR His PRESENCE
 - 1. He was not a GHOST
 - 2. He had not come to REBUKE them
 - B. They REJOICED that Jesus was WITH THEM (cf. 16:20-22)
 - C. He reminded them of His PROMISE of PEACE (cf. 14:27)
- III. His PURPOSE for Them (John 20:21*b*-23; cf. 17:18)
 - A. He makes a summation of the GREAT COMMISSION (cf. Matt. 28:19-20)
 - 1. He had COMPLETED His mission
 - 2. They were BEGINNING their mission

- B. Jesus exhaled and said, "RECEIVE the HOLY SPIRIT"
 - 1. ILLUSTRATES what would happen at Pentecost
 - 2. Reminds them of the ENABLEMENT the Father has promised (cf. 14:16, 26; 15:26; 16:7)
 - 3. Proclaimed the DEITY of Jesus (cf. Gen. 2:7)
- C. They would ANNOUNCE whose sins *had been* forgiven or retained
 - 1. We declare God's CONSEQUENCES for sin
 - 2. We proclaim God's offer of FORGIVENESS