

# **SERIES:** CHRIST'S SACRIFICE: OUR HOPE

**DATE:** Saturday - Sunday, April 15-16, 2023

**SERMON:** The Gift of Peace

**SCRIPTURE:** John 20:19-29 NIV

## **John 20:19-29 NIV**

[19] On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

[20] After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

[21] Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

[22] And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

[23] If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

[24] Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came.

[25] So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

[26] A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

[27] Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

[28] Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

[29] Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

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1. To His people, Jesus brings the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of a gift amplifies its greatness.
2. Jesus's Shalom overcomes the greatest \_\_\_\_\_ of peace – \_\_\_\_\_.
3. By His Wounds, our fear and doubt can be \_\_\_\_\_.
  - *Isaiah 53:5* But He was pierced for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on Him, and by His wounds we are healed.
  - *John 14:27* Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.
  - *Isaiah 9:6-7a* For to us a Child is born ... And He will be called ... Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of His government and peace there will be no end.
4. The Messiah's Peace provides our greatest \_\_\_\_\_ – My Lord and My God.
  - *Isaiah 52:7* How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"
  - *Romans 10:14-15* ... And how can they believe in the One whom they have not heard? ... As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"
5. Jesus' Shalom \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts in the battle.
  - *John 16:33* I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

## Lagniappe

Christians love the preaching of the *cross* and the opportunity of rejoicing at the *resurrection*.

Both of those beliefs were on display Easter Sunday and during the weeks leading up to it as we preached on “**Christ’s Sacrifice**” and the *hope* we have in Him.

Not only did we have record number of people join us in worship services on Easter weekend at FBC Covington, but anecdotal reports indicate that Christians turned out in large numbers around the country. Those people who keep up with such trends have noted that it seems we are finally getting over the pandemic concerns and recognizing that we “must” preach the cross and celebrate the resurrection. While this preaching may have never been more urgent in America, this remains and always has been our mandate. “*We preach Christ and Him crucified.*”

I am thankful for Chris Kroll and our other pastors who preach and teach and lead so effectively. Chris will conclude our sermon series on *Christ’s Sacrifice* from The Gospel of John this weekend.

I look forward to being back with you next week when we will start a new sermon series on “**Awakening**” which will emphasize newness in our lives and hope for the people around us.

Would you be praying for this new series and for the opportunities it will bring to call people to faith in Christ?

## Waylon