

I Have Seen the Lord; John 20:17-18

I. See

- a. Wouldn't it have been great to have walked with Jesus?
 - i. To be able to sit at his feet and listen
 - ii. To see the miracles, the empty tomb
 - iii. I think of Moses wanting to see the face of God
 - iv. Exodus 33:18–22 (ESV) ¹⁸ Moses said, "Please show me your glory." ¹⁹ And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. ²⁰ But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." ²¹ And the LORD said, "Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, ²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by.
- b. If we could only see His glory pass by us (in person)!
 - i. Maybe, then, we would know exactly what we are supposed to know
 - ii. Maybe, then, we would completely understand the Gospel
 - iii. Maybe not

II. Blurred

- a. John 20:11–15 (ESV) ¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."
- b. After walking with Jesus for 3 years, she did not recognize Him (or His voice)
 - i. His twelve apostles were the same
 - ii. Mark 8:14–21 (ESV) ¹⁴ Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. ¹⁵ And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." ¹⁶ And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread. ¹⁷ And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? ¹⁸ Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? ¹⁹ When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" They said to him, "Twelve." ²⁰ "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" And they said to him, "Seven." ²¹ And he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"

- iii. Jesus reminds them he fed 5000 with 5 loaves and 4000 with 7 loaves, yet they were worried about not having any bread
- iv. "Do you not yet understand?"
- v. Mark 9:30–32 (ESV) ³⁰ They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know, ³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise." ³² But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.
- vi. Jesus plainly tells them that He will be killed by men and then rise from the dead, yet they did not understand Him
- vii. John 20:8–10 (ESV) ⁸ Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to their homes.
- viii. Even after seeing the empty tomb, believing that Jesus is the Messiah, they still did not understand the empty tomb's meaning
- ix. These people walked with Jesus for 3 years, listened to Him preach about the Kingdom, watched Him heal the sick, cast out demons, and raise the dead, yet they did not understand
- x. They saw Him after His death, witnesses of His resurrection
- xi. Acts 1:6 (ESV) ⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?"
- xii. Acts 1:4–8 (ESV) ⁴ And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ⁶ So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."
- xiii. So, they go and wait in Jerusalem, still not understanding – until the Holy Spirit descends on them as tongues of fire
- xiv. Acts 2:3–4 (ESV) ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- xv. It is here, at this point, that they are given an understanding of the Kingdom, that they see the Messiah clearly for the first time
- c. We don't have the muddled view like the Apostles and disciples, we see the Lord clearly

III. Clear

- a. We have a clear view of the Lord, nothing is in our way (except us)
 - i. 1 Corinthians 13:8–10 (ESV) ⁸ Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.

⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

- ii. Everything before the Word was done in 'part'
- iii. The written word has all prophecies fulfilled in Jesus; no need for them, they will pass away
- iv. The written word is complete, no new revelations; speaking in tongues (other languages) is not needed, they will cease
- v. The word is written down for us, no need to pass down the mighty works of God orally (knowledge); the miraculous knowledge given to the apostles is not needed, it will pass away
- vi. That which is perfect (complete) is here, the written word; all that is not complete (the partial) will pass away
- vii. 1 Corinthians 13:11–12 (ESV) ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.
- viii. We can fully know the Lord
- b. We are often like Mary, unaware that we are in the very presence of the Lord
- c. And often it takes Him calling us to wake us up ("Mary")
- d. 2 Thessalonians 2:13–14 (ESV) ¹³ But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth. ¹⁴ To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

IV. I have Seen the Lord

- a. We have seen His Glory
- b. John 1:14 (ESV) ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- c. We are walking with Jesus