

**SERMON DATE:** July 11, 2021

**SERMON SERIES:** Can I Get a Witness?

**SERMON TITLE:** Christ's Soul-Saving Message

## SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

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### Luke 24:44-49

*Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." 45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. 46 Then 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, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."*

## Sermon Summary

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The gospel message is the power of God for salvation, and it is effectual only as it proclaimed, understood, and accepted. Having accepted this message with all their heart, born-again believers in Jesus Christ are commissioned by Him to live as witnesses.

## Introduction

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There is a certain joy that comes with sharing some good news with someone. Can you recall a time in recent memory in which you had some good information to share with others? Or something good you possessed that you were excited to show off to those around you? Now that you have that occasion in your mind, now consider how you awaited or even looked

for your opportunity to finally share. The soul-saving message of God's love demonstrated through His giving of His son Jesus Christ lives in the heart of every born-again believer, and we are compelled and empowered by His Holy Spirit within to share this good news!

## **FOCUS #1 – CHRIST THE MESSENGER AND THE MESSAGE**

### **Luke 24:44-45**

*Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." 45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.*

### **NOTE #1: Comprehend the message is "Good News"**

#### **Luke 4:16-21 (NLT)**

When he came to the village of Nazareth, his boyhood home, he went as usual to the synagogue on the Sabbath and stood up to read the Scriptures. 17 The scroll of Isaiah the prophet was handed to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where this was written: 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, 19 and that the time of the Lord's favor has come." 20 He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the attendant, and sat down. All eyes in the synagogue looked at him intently. 21 Then he began to speak to them. "The Scripture you've just heard has been fulfilled this very day!"

**Human Nature** - It is human nature to want to share "good news"

**POINT OF EMPHASIS – In order to understand something is good news, we must first be acquainted with “bad news”.**

**Luke 24:46-47**

Then 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, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

**NOTE #2: The Message Is Soul-Saving**

**Mark 16:14-16**

Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. 15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

**FOCUS #2 – CHRIST THE MESSENGER AND HIS WITNESSES**

**Luke 24:46-48**

*46 Then 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, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And you are witnesses of these things.*

**Matthew 28:19-20**

**Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have

commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

**NOTE #3: Go Make Disciples (Followers) Rather Than Confessors**

**James 2:18-20**

But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! 20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

**Faith Has Corresponding Actions That Follow**

**FOCUS #3 – CHRIST’S WITNESSES AND HIS MESSAGE**

**Luke 24:48-49**

And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”.

**NOTE #4: One Primary Calling – Be Witnesses! All other callings are secondary.**

**Acts 1:8**

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall **be witnesses** to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

**We Are Called Not To Tell The Witness Of Christ, But To BE The Witness Of Christ.**

**NOTE #5: Believers are Christ’s Living Epistles**

**2 Corinthians 3:1-3**

Do we begin again to commend ourselves? Or do we need, as some others, epistles of commendation to you or letters of commendation from you? 2 You are our epistle written in our hearts, **known and read by all men**; 3 clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.

**The Redeeming, Saving, Life-Transforming message of the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, is the power of God unto salvation.**

**John 3:16-21**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”