

John 20:19-23

5th appearance, Sun even., resurrection day

Mk 16:14f; Lk 24:36-43

WHO is this promise to?

- ▶ “Apostle” = one sent ([Heb 3:1](#)) Cmpr [Jn 17:18](#)
- ▶ [Mk 16:14f](#) - mission of “the eleven”
- ▶ “Disciples” - the twelve [Mt 10:1; 11:1; Lk 9:12...14](#)
-- by [John 6:3; 13:22; 16:17,29; 18:1,2](#)
- ▶ Who *did* receive Holy Spirit re forgiveness?
[Ac 1:5,8 ... 2:38](#)

WHEN were they to receive it?

NOT immediately ...

- ▶ **Lk 24:49** - *forty days after the appearance in Jn 20*
- ▶ **Ac 1:4-5,8** - *“not many days from now”*
- ▶ Equip for work which began **Acts 2**
- ▶ *No such action (“forgive...retain sins”) until Pentecost*

WHAT would it enable them to do?

“If you forgive the sins of any...”

▶ **Mk 2:5f** - ONLY God can forgive sins

▶ **Ac 2:36...38...41...47** - *declared* sins to be forgiven thru preaching of the gospel

Verbs for *declaration* of action:

Ac 10:15; Isa 6:10 with **Mt 13:15; Jer 1:10**

NOT

- ▶ Promise to all Christians to receive the Holy Spirit
- ▶ Empowering “the church” to forgive sins

IS

Commission to the *apostles* to preach the message of salvation in Christ and the promise of the Holy Spirit to enable them to do so!

Mk 16:15-20 ... Ac 2:14...37,38; 10:41-43