Gr ace and Peace, (Shalom)

#  John 20:19-31

**The chronology of Resurrection Sunday:**

A morning miracle brings chaotic joy to the followers of Jesus.

**The appearance to the twelve that evening:** Jn 20:19-25

 Fear caused them to gather behind locked doors. “Peace” Shalom be with you. Paul’s greetings 1 Cor. 1:3 “Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” Jesus helps their unbelief by showing them His wounds to prove that He was not just an ethereal being. He commissions them again. Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” They get another infusion of the Holy Spirit.

Forgiveness of sins is based on a person’s response to the gospel. Do they believe that Jesus’ death on the cross was necessary to save them from their sin? Does that person believe that Jesus is God in the flesh and that His work on the cross was sufficient to save them from their sins apart from works? And do they believe that the resurrection proves that those who believe now have eternal life in Jesus Christ alone. If you believe that you are saved. If not, you retain your sins. C.F. Romans 3:23; 6:23; 10:9@10; Ephesians 2:8-10.

**Thomas’ confession**: Jn 20:26-31

 Thomas did not believe his brothers just as they did not at first believe the women. This only proves how convinced Thomas was of Jesus’ death. Jesus graciously appears again in order to help Thomas’ faith and ours as well.

Dear fellow sinner. Will you retain your sins or accept Christ’s offer of Grace?