

Gladness & Joy in the Resurrection

Introduction

In Section V Ignatius challenges us to utilize the Resurrection Scriptures as a route to seeking the following grace:

*“that I might experience true human gladness and joy ...
and rejoice intensely because of the great glory,
the joy and the hope the Resurrected Christ gives me”*

Oswald Chambers once said, *“The proof that I have been through crucifixion with Jesus is that I have a decided likeness to Him. The incoming of the Spirit of Jesus into me readjusts my personal life to God.*

“The idea all through the apostle Paul’s writings is that after the moral decision to be identified with Jesus in His death has been made, the resurrection life of Jesus invades every bit of my human nature.”

And that’s what we seek ... that’s what we all strive for: we want to first acquire that *“decided likeness to Him”* ... and then have that *“resurrection of life with Jesus invade every bit of our human nature.”*

Exercise

Most of the passages listed below can be read in a minute or two ... but the actual time elapsed was quite probably an hour or more. So that begs the question, *“what else occurred that wasn’t written down?”* That’s what I am challenged to seek out in this Exercise. Again, using my imagination, I want to *step into each scene* and fill in those blanks, imagining what else took place, was said, etc.

Most particularly, in this Exercise, my focus is to **attempt to FEEL the gladness and joy** the participants felt as they came to realize that Jesus was in fact alive.

VERY IMPORTANT: As I proceed through ... and at the end make notes in my journal of whatever it is that I believe the Lord is trying to get at for me by having me do this Exercise, I remember that Sections III, IV and V are all about the Lord speaking to me about (and giving me a “picture” of) my own future going forward.

[**Suggestion:** just take one passage at a sitting, actively elongating the amount of time you spend with it. Very consciously **be in the scene**. Then take a break from this Exercise to do whatever ... while continuing to allow the lessons of the passage to resonate within. Often there will come added revelation during your break period. Then if you desire, start with another passage.]

The Empty Tomb (John 20:1-9)

Participants (select one):

Mary of Magdala

Peter

The other disciple

An on-looker

Jesus Appears to Mary of Magdala (John 20:10-18)

Participants (select one):

Mary of Magdala

An on-looker

Jesus Appears to His Disciples/Thomas (John 20:19-31)

Participants (select one):

- Thomas
- One of the 12
- An on-looker

The Miraculous Catch of Fish (John 21:1-14)

Participants (select one):

- Peter
- A son of Zebedee
- Thomas
- Nathanael
- John
- Another disciple
- An on-looker