- I. <u>Peace</u> be with you.
 - A. Removes Fear
 - B. Provides Joy
 - C. Peace prepares them for <u>mission</u>.
- II. Sent like Jesus. (21)
 - A. He is our <u>pattern</u>.
 - 1. He was <u>sent</u>.
 - 2. He was willing.
 - 3. Incarnational
 - 4. Endured and <u>persevered</u> to the end.
 - 5. <u>Gospel</u> focused.
 - B. The <u>mission</u> of God, in Christ, continues through us today!
- We are <u>sent</u> like Jesus, with His <u>peace</u>, equipped and empowered by His <u>Spirit</u>.
- III. Empowered by the Spirit (22-23)
 - A. The <u>enabling</u> breath of God. (22)
 - B. Empowered for the <u>Gospel</u> (23)
- His peace isn't given for our <u>comfort</u>, but to equip us for our <u>mission</u>.

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

"END-MINDED LIVING" Matthew 24-25

Historical Timeline:

This was the last week of Jesus' life on earth. Jesus had entered Jerusalem on a colt just two days earlier on a Sunday, and would lay His life down on the cross on the coming Friday. Entering Jerusalem that Sunday, He had been acclaimed at the Messiah and Son of David. On Monday he had cleansed the temple by overturning the tables of the moneychangers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. (Mark 11:1-19) Now it was Tuesday. In the morning He returned from Bethany to the city of Jerusalem where He taught extensively. As He left the temple with His disciples, making His way to the Mount of Olives, His disciples remarked about the magnificence of the temple.

Passage Overview:

Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives. The temple would have been gleaming in the sun across the valley. His disciples' began to question Him concerning the end of the age. This prophetic section is packed full of precise predictions that rightly draw our attention. But it is important that we listen to the dominant message that is embedding in these words of Jesus.

Jesus clearly stated that the temple era would soon come to an end, yet His kingdom would expand to every nation and people group. Then He would return in power to reign. This was surprising. The temple had served as the center of religious worship for centuries. The presence of God among His people was represented by the presence of the temple in Jerusalem. But all of this was to change. Jesus Himself replaced the temple. He became the avenue for worship and the center of worship. God's presence would be experienced by the coming of the Holy Spirit to dwell in His people.

Yes, the end would come. Jesus Himself would return on the clouds of heaven. Every eye would behold him and every person would be held accountable to Him. While the precise timing of Jesus' return would not be revealed, there would be many evidences of its approach.

During this time and expectant waiting, His disciples should expect severe opposition to break out against them. Yet this would only serve to extend Jesus' kingdom. They must be active. They must be serving the Lord with all of their strength, using their time and energy for the sake of His kingdom. For when He returns in power, they will be held accountable for what they have and have not done.

Living with the end in mind (the return of the King), they must expect His coming and so serve Him well with what He has placed in their hands.

Reading for Next Week: Matthew 24-25