

The Great Physician

Luke 24:13-35

- Jesus in His grace didn't just appear to those who was closest to Him, but also to others in order that people couldn't just say His disciples were making His resurrection up. In this section Luke records an appearance to two men who are on a road to Emmaus which is about seven miles from Jerusalem, and as their traveling the most miraculous thing they could've imagined occurs, amazingly as this is happening initially they don't recognize it, sound familiar? Let's take a look!

V13-35

- **V13-16** here are two men on a road away from Jerusalem, they are discouraged, frustrated, and their solution is to go about their business sullen and without hope. Sadly many have been reduced to this very thing, their faith is at an all time low, but instead of seeking the Lord more diligently they've decided to give up and go in another direction.
- What I love about this is although their going about this in the wrong way and heading in the wrong direction **V13**, having the wrong conversation **V14**, Jesus in His mercy and grace joins them even though they haven't invited Him **V15**, and we see that they don't recognize Him. How many times has The Lord begin to intervene in our circumstance or situation, and initially we do not realize that He is at work, and even in their ignorance the Lord is still walking with them.
- **V17-24** first Jesus is listening next Jesus is speaking, because when we talk of Him you can believe you will soon be talking with Him. The conversation they are having is an interesting one because **V22** tell us they had heard about the ladies going to the tomb and finding it empty, and **V21** says they understood that Jesus had prophesied that He would rise from the dead the third day, so with all that going on why is that they are discouraged, upset and leaving?
- That's what the discussion is all about folks, unbelief is battling it out with faith, they know what Jesus said, they understood some of the Old Testament prophecies that Jesus also taught, they heard what has happened, and even those from among them and not just the ladies went and found the tomb empty just as the women had said, and yet, their still trying to come up with an explanation that made sense to them instead of just trusting Jesus at His Word.
- That folks is what they are battling with on the inside, notice they get sarcastic at Jesus when He asks "what things" and they explain what they did know about the Lord > where He was from, that He was a Prophet, Mighty in deed and Word, that He promised to redeem Israel, and that He was crucified. The real problem is and you can hear it in their answers was they are discouraged and disappointed because God did not do what they wanted Him to do, and in the way that they wanted, so now they are trying to ignore all that is happening around them.

- In fact the longer Cleopas talked the more he indicted himself and his friend for their unbelief. When you look at it what more evidence did they need? Witnesses including the Apostles, Angels announcing that He was alive, People coming back and saying they've seen Him and heard Him speak > **Math 28:9-10**, they had all the proof that they needed to believe!
- **V24-27** but **Rom 10:17** says "**faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God**" this explained why Jesus opened the Word of God to them. As much as evidence, people's word, circumstances and situations, don't ever underestimate the power of the Word of God. 25 says their real problem was not in their heads but in their hearts, as they could have discussed the subject for days, months, years, and still not come to a satisfactory answer.
- Notice that He takes them from Moses through the Prophets, this proves that from the very beginning everything was pointing to and all about Jesus and His birth, death, and resurrection. They are reminded what the Word had said about the Messiah > **Is 50:5-7**, **53:3-5**, **Zech 12:10**. I don't want you to miss this point either as **V27** says He didn't just gloss over the Word but "**He expounded to them the scriptures and things about Himself**". Folks when we come to church it shouldn't be about a verse here or there, an allegory, a song, but an explanation of the text!
- This is why we put such an emphasis on the Word of God, because Jesus certainly did, when His followers were at their lowest and in need of encouragement, restoration, the joy of their salvation, Jesus didn't tell them to find a radio station, a prayer line, or play your favorite song, even though those things can help at times, But what Jesus gave them was a heavy dose of His Word, from the beginning, right up to where they were at in their lives.
- **V28-29** look at the response, as they came near to their destination and Jesus seemingly was headed elsewhere they constrained Him, "Constrained" wasn't just an invite, but that they grabbed His Hand, tugged at His robe, held onto Him as they said don't go! They didn't want Him to leave them, He had so encouraged them that they weren't ready for Him to go, as they wanted more time with Him, this is what the Word produces, a thirst and hunger for more.
- **V30** after being won over by The Word, something interesting occurs, the guest becomes the host, and Jesus now gives the blessing over the meal. Remember bread in scripture is a type of the Word and what does Jesus do with the Word in our lives > **1st He blesses it**- that it might lead us to green pastures, **2nd He breaks it**- so that we can understand it better, **3rd He gives it**- He distributes it to us so that we can go out into a lost world armed with His truth and His power.
- **V31-32** now eyes are opened and hearts are on fire, and Jesus disappears from their sight, why? **2 Cor 5:7**- His work is done now its time for them to put "**feet unto their faith**" because "**we walk by faith and not by sight**". Once the Lord has opened their eyes, and their hearts are now on fire for Him, its time to get back to work, the pity party is over, the vacation is done, now it's time for them to be used by the Lord, and they know just where to start.

- **V33-35** after walking seven miles one way to Emmaus now they turn right around and go back to Jerusalem, they could have said **“its getting late, lets get up early tomorrow and then we’ll go back and tell everyone”**. That’s reasonable right! Wrong! When God has spoken to us we don’t need to wait until its convenient for us to do what He’s asked, we need to act now, so whatever they were going to do in Emmaus suddenly took a back seat to what they knew the Lord wanted them to do back in Jerusalem, and they travel all the way back and find the Apostles.
- This is when it gets exciting because not only do Cleopas and his buddy have something to say but also the Apostles and Jesus disciples declaring “Jesus is alive”. If we have a so called fellowship and were not talking about the risen King is it really a fellowship or is it a get together? A fellowship is when you have multiple people getting excited about what the Lord has done, and is doing, as Cleopas and his buddy didn’t let them steal their thunder, they interject and say that’s great but he revealed Himself to us by communing with us by breaking bread.