

This passage we are looking at today in Luke 24 reveals the burning heart and how blind eyes are open to the revelation of Jesus.

Luke 24:13-32 (NKJV) 13 Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened. 15 So it was, while they conversed and reasoned, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them. 16 But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him. 17 And He said to them, “What kind of conversation [is] this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?” 18 Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, “Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?” 19 And He said to them, “What things?” So they said to Him, “The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 “and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. 21 “But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened. 22 “Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us. 23 “When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive. 24 “And certain of those [who were] with us went to the tomb and found [it] just as the women had said; but Him they did not see.” 25 Then He said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 “Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. 28 Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and He indicated that He would have gone farther. 29 But they constrained Him, saying, “Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent.” And He went in to stay with them. 30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke [it,] and gave it to them. 31 Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight. 32 And they said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?”

Picture of current Israel

The account of the road to Emmaus serves as a prophetic picture of Israel’s present spiritual condition, reflecting the blindness that has, for a time, prevented many in Israel from recognizing Jesus as their promised Messiah.

The passage outlines a specific sequence: *possession of the Scriptures, inability to recognize the Messiah standing right next to them, and an ultimate, future awakening.*

1. Possessing the Texts but Missing the Person

In Luke 24:27, Jesus points out that the disciples have "Moses and all the Prophets" but still fail to see how those scriptures point to a suffering Messiah.

- Similarly, modern religious Israel fiercely preserves, studies, and honors the Hebrew Scriptures (the Torah and Prophets) but fail to see Jesus as the Messiah. **Their eyes are restrained from seeing Him.**

2. A Veil Imposed by God for a Season

Luke 24:16 explicitly states that the disciples' eyes "were kept from recognizing Him." It was a divinely permitted, temporary blindness.

- This aligns with Paul's teaching in Romans 11:25, which states that "a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in."
- **The Blindness:** The blindness is not viewed as permanent abandonment by God, but a mysterious, sovereign "veiling" that occurs until a specific prophetic timeline is fulfilled.

3. Misunderstanding the Nature of the Kingdom

The disciples on the road confessed their shattered expectations: "We had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel" (Luke 24:21). They expected a political, military Messiah who would immediately overthrow Roman oppression.

- **Today** Jewish messianic expectations still look for a political figure who will bring world peace, rebuild the Temple, and restore national sovereignty to geopolitical Israel.

4. The Pattern of Future Revelation

The Emmaus narrative does not end in blindness; it ends with Jesus breaking bread, the veil lifting, and their eyes being opened (Luke 24:31).

- **The Modern Parallel:** Christian eschatology uses this as a prophetic picture for Israel's future.
- **The Awakening:** It mirrors Zechariah 12:10 ("they will look on me, on him whom they have pierced") and Romans 11:26 ("all Israel will be saved"). The sudden recognition on the road to Emmaus is seen as an example of the future awakening where Israel's eyes will finally be opened to their Messiah.

I. A heart that burns is the answer

I love this text and in it I believe we see how to have a heart that burns for Jesus and that encounters Him more consistently. **Jesus wants us to burn for Him, He is the One who baptizes with Holy Spirit and with fire.** *He is the one who said in Luke*

Luke 12:49-50 ⁴⁹ “I came to send fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰ But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how distressed I am till it is accomplished!

Jesus entered into the baptism of death; He drank the cup of suffering so that we could have the flame of His love . That the altar of our heart could host the fiery Presence of God Himself. We are meant to burn .

There are some practical things we can do to receive His fire as well as continually fan into flame (2Timothy 1:6) the burning that is within.

- As the disciples were walking along the road ‘Jesus drew near, but their eyes were restrained from seeing them. I wonder how often Jesus is near and we simply don’t see Him because we are focused on the wrong thing. In this case they were talking about what happened and how it obviously didn’t look like they supposed it would. **Disappointment is a major hindrance to fellowship with God. It keeps us from seeing what Jesus is doing and what He plans to do. We have to commit to stay focused upon Him and not allow the issues of life to take our eyes off of Him.**
- The scripture states the men were sad and ‘we were hoping’. Past tense. Why did you stop hoping. Hope must be in front of us, not behind us.

Proverbs 13:12 (NKJV) Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But *when* the desire comes, *it is* a tree of life.

- *deferred* in the passage means “to put off” or “drag out,” as in a long, drawn-out process. Hope deferred can put out the fire of His burning and your passion to run after Him.
- When our expectations are delayed for a long time, we can experience disappointment, disillusionment, and loss of hope. In some cases, prolonged waiting for what we eagerly desire can become such an affliction to us that it differs little from a lingering sickness, depression, anxiety.
- The enemy will use deferred hope to fuel hopelessness and doubt while God’s purpose is that we would look forward in hope. The antidote while you wait for your desire to come is this **Hebrews 6:19** (NKJV) This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil.
- Presence driven is much different than answer driven. If we resolve in our hearts that Jesus is our one desire we will be unshakable, immovable!

Luke 24:27 beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. Your soul was meant to only walk in full strength when we are fully dependent upon God and feast upon His word continually. Many times

we don't encounter Jesus in the word because we are not looking for Jesus everywhere. Jesus is near each time we open the word with a longing heart for Him.

- Can you imagine the Author of the Word began opening up the Scriptures that were spoken into existence by Him. The two disciples were receiving revelation of Jesus in Gen, Exodus, Leviticus Numbers, Deuteronomy, and then Jesus begins pointing out He is the One all of the prophets were speaking of the entire time. The traditions, the feasts, the law, the prophets all spoke of Jesus!
- We say "that would have been amazing to have Jesus do that" yet we don't always remember that is what He is willing to do now each time we open the Word of God and ask the Holy Spirit to release wisdom and revelation so that we can see the beauty of Christ everywhere and that He would transform us in the seeing.
- *Jesus indicated to the men that He would have gone farther but they constrained Him.* The men had to have more. He was restoring hope to their thirsty souls. Constrained means they took Jesus by force or persuaded Him. This is incredible because Jesus is in His glorified body and He actually lets them constrain or persuade through their intercession.
- There is this thing about our Savior we must understand. *He loves bold, tenacious faith that will not let go of Him until we get resolve, until we get an answer, until the word of God is fulfilled in our lives. There is something about radical faith that moves God and He allows us to constrain Him with our hunger and longing for more.*
- We often times give up to easily assuming that if God was going to answer He would have by now but He wants us to grab hold of Him/His word with everything that we are. Persevering, faithful prayer and clinging to the word will keep you burning.

You know what will transform you and over time renew your mind to the mind of Jesus Christ. The Daily opening up the word of God in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Hold on to promises until they are conceived in you.

- *Luke 12:30-31 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.*
- There eyes were open at the breaking of bread. The broken bread is His broken body. There is something that happens when we set our eyes upon the sacrifice of Jesus. We must look into His wounds and feel the burning love He has for us. Behold His broken body and consume His brokenness that releases healing.

- ³² *And they said to one another, “Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?” When Jesus talks our hearts burn. Holy Spirit wants to open our hearts to burn with a fire that will never go out as we sit with Jesus and hear His voice. He wants to release burning hearts for Him so we must position ourselves in the word/voice of God drawing near to the One who sets our hearts a flame..*

Jesus voice set their hearts on fire. We have to get this. Only His voice can do this. A great warning from Jesus for His church in the end times is **Matthew 24:12b(NKJV)** *the love of many will grow cold.* This is the ultimate remedy for the dull, cold, hardened our veiled heart.

The Old Testament remains a veiled book until it is read through the lens of Christ's suffering and resurrection. **2 Corinthians 3:14 (NKJV)** *But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the [veil] is taken away in Christ.*

The early church understood the "burning heart" primarily as **the supernatural awakening of spiritual comprehension and divine love triggered by the Holy Spirit revealing Jesus through the Scriptures.** early Christian theologians did not view this as a fleeting, superficial emotion. Instead, they interpreted it as a profound theological and mystical transformation.

Christ taught not as Aristotle, Plato, and the philosophers, but so as to inflame the hearts of his hearers with divine love. Let then all teachers and interpreters of Holy Scripture imitate their Master, and seek not only to enlighten the understandings of those who attend upon their teaching, but to kindle the love of God in their hearts as well. Let them not be content with being as the Cherubim, but be also as the Seraphim.