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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

commitment to God, fulfilling scripture, Holy Spirit, mind of Christ, suffering for faith, resurrection significance, Kingdom victory, new creation, gospel power, repentance and forgiveness, Jerusalem's importance, Palestinian believers, ascension, great joy, praising God

SPEAKERS

Baruch Korman, Intro Voice

Intro Voice 00:00

Music, Shalom and welcome to via hafte yesrael, a Hebrew phrase, which means you shall love Israel. We hope you'll stay with us for the next 30 minutes, as our teacher, Dr Baruch shares his expository teaching from the Bible. Dr Baruch is the senior lecturer at the Zera Avraham Institute based in Israel, although all courses are taught in Hebrew at the institute, Dr Baruch is pleased to share this weekly address in English. To find out more about our work in Israel, please visit us on the web@loveisrael.org That's one word, loveisrael.org Now here's Baruch with today's lesson.

Baruch Korman 00:41

If you were to ask me, what is one of the most unfortunate occurrence within the believing community today, I would respond to that question in this way, a failure to take seriously the Word of God. In other words, if we want to be like our Lord and Savior, we are going to be committed fully to living in such a way that the Word of God is fulfilled by our behavior, what we say, but most importantly, how we live. And this is exactly what we're going to learn today as we conclude the Gospel of Luke, take out your Bible and look with me to Luke's gospel and chapter 24 Luke's gospel and chapter 24 now we have seen that Messiah, that He was raised by his heavenly Father from the dead, and that he was raised bodily, meaning that the resurrection is a historical fact. It is the foundation of our faith. And as Messiah was concluding his conversation with his disciples, it is most interesting what he said, so look with me to Luke's gospel, chapter 24 and verse 44 he says here, but he said to them, that is to His disciples. these words which I have spoken to you still being with you that it was necessary that all the things that have been written be fulfilled, those things written in the Law of Moses and the prophets and the Psalms concerning Me. So what is being emphasized here is that Messiah lived in such a way that the scripture, he talks about the law and the prophets and the Psalms, which are the foundation of that third portion of the Hebrew Bible, known as the Ketuvim, or the writings. What he is saying is this, that what he did was so that scripture would be fulfilled. This is the purpose that He was sent into this world to complete, to show his commitment to the Word of God. So before we go any further, we need to ask ourselves a question, do we have such a commitment? Is our utmost desire? Our chief desire would be to apply biblical truth to our life. That is what a true follower of Messiah is committed to, in other words, simply to obey the Word of God. That is how we demonstrate faith. That is how we serve God. So

again, Messiah is speaking about how he was committed to the Word of God that what Moses wrote, what the prophets wrote, and what was written about him in the book of Psalms, all these things would be fulfilled. Look now to our next verse, verse 45 then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. Now that is what Messiah wants to do by means of His Spirit. That is the Holy Spirit. What he wants to give to every believer is the mind of Christ, so that we can understand the word of God with a purpose, and that is this, to apply scriptural truth to our life, and when we say to God, and I realize that this is a sentence that I say a lot, but I think it's so vital for a believer that we approach God and we approach his word, saying to God, God, whatever. You reveal to me whatever I learn from you through the Holy Spirit concerning the truth of your word, whatever it is you teach me this, and I am going to demonstrate it. I am going to follow it. I am going to be committed to the revelation of the word of God. When we have such a commitment, it is going to change how we understand the word of God. What Messiah is saying here, and notice that these two things go together. He begins by saying, I am committed to fulfilling the law of Moses, the prophetic truth of Scripture and what was said concerning me in the book of Psalms, he lived in order that the word of God might be fulfilled through him and by him. And then he says to the disciples, what did he do? Look at verse 45 then that is as a response to what he just said. He opened their mind to understand the scriptures verse 46 and he said to them that Thus it has been written and thus it was necessary for Messiah to suffer. Now this is very significant, because he just mentioned about how he fulfilled the scripture, that he applied the Word of God to His life and that obedience, that commitment to the truth of Scripture. What did that produce in his life, suffering and in the same way that the world hated him and persecuted him, he taught his disciples, and especially this is true within a last day context, that the world will hate us and the world will persecute us. That's what we can expect before the kingdom of God is established. So if the Son of God suffered to obey the will of God, how much more so are we his followers? That we are called to suffer for our faith? That shouldn't surprise us, but that is a foundational truth, that when we walk in obedience, we are going to be persecuted by the world. We will suffer. So look again at this passage. It speaks about how he had given them understanding their minds to understand the scriptures. Then look at verse 46

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and he said to them that Thus it has been written, and thus it's necessary for Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day. Now, two things that need to be said about that last part of this verse where there's an emphasis on the third day. Now we see, for example, in the account from Genesis, chapter 22 The Binding of Isaac, we see that things came about on the third day. And I've made mention to you many, many times that numbers give us significance. We see significance in the numbers that appear in the Scripture. And the number three is a number of testing. But understand what I mean by that. You test something to learn something for something to be revealed. And the number three is a number of documentation. And what we see here is that it's not by chance that Messiah rose from the dead on the third day, it documents this victory. And then secondly, we see that the third day is indeed just, that it is a day of victory, where God reveals His purposes. And what are his purposes? Life from dead. Now, what does that mean? Life from death? Very simply, we're speaking about resurrection. And whenever resurrection is mentioned in the Scripture, you know what should come into our mind? The Kingdom resurrection, biblically speaking, is always tied to a kingdom reality, a kingdom change. We are in this body. We will die and we will be resurrected first. Our souls, and then we will receive a new body and this resurrection. And by the way, when we ascend into the heavens

after dying, after being separated from this body, our souls, we will know the truth of God, we will know the kingdom experience from God. But also we need to realize that there is that resurrection of the soul, and at the time of the rapture, there will be that resurrection of a new body, and that new body will give us, ultimately, that great victory. What type of victory, a kingdom victory. So over and over, when we talk about the resurrection, we should think about Kingdom victory. And the good news is this, by means of the Holy Spirit, and we can be more specific, by means of the anointing of the Spirit of God that comes upon a believer, we are able to accomplish the will of God. That is why God provides that is why God gives us power, that God gives us His perspective. That is why God gives to us His provision so that we can do His will. And when we look at the Scripture, we see that his will is inherently tied to the scriptural truth. So it was necessary, not just for Messiah to suffer, but as we read at the end of verse 46 and that is to rise from the dead on the third day, verse 47 now, what are we called to do as his disciples? Well, we are learned. We learn from that next verse, verse 47 Word says and to proclaim, and that word to proclaim is causative. What does that mean? It means that because of what he has done for us and the benefits that we are going to receive from his work, we should be individuals that are caused to proclaim and notice what it says here to proclaim, by his name, repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations. Now notice repentance and the forgiveness of sin. Now there's a very important principle that we see from these two words and how they are used in this same verse, there is repentance, and that repentance leads to the forgiveness of sin. And who is that available to it is available to all the nations, to all of humanity. But here's where repentance begins. Repentance begins with agreeing with God, agreeing about what God's standards, his standards for morality, ethics, justice, all of his biblical standards. Now, what is the conclusion when I agree with God and say, Yes, I affirm your standards of what is right and what is wrong? We could say it differently, what is righteous and what is unrighteous, when I apply his standards to my life and what is the best place to find God's standards in the Law of Moses. The Law of Moses has a purpose today. Now, the law of Moses cannot make one righteous. In fact, it's very different the law of Moses when I apply it to my life. You know what it teaches me? It teaches me that I am unrighteous, and not only that I'm unrighteous and guilty before God, but I'm in need of a Savior, and that savior is also called the Redeemer. And as we've talked about many, many times, Messiah did that work on the cross, on Passover, the day of redemption. So I can experience redemption, that I can become that new creation, that I can have new life, a victorious life, and I can walk faithfully in the will of God. That's what our faith is about. That is what the message of Scripture delivers to us, that we are called to obey the truth of God. But here's what we need to realize. You can never do that in the natural and it's only through the power of the gospel that power to save and. That power to change. What do I mean by that? A power to change. I become a new person. I'm not who I was. But through the gospel, I become a new creation. We can say it differently. I become born again. I have new life. That word new is a kingdom word. I begin to live according to the kingdom standards. And it's only through this regeneration that is the power of the Holy Spirit changing me, that I'm able to now walk in obedience with God. That is what I'm called to do. That is what I've been saved to do, and that's what faith, a saving faith, leads me to do, so he says here, and that would be proclaimed by the name, his name, repentance and forgiveness of sins to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. Now that gospel, that that plan of redemption, that message of the Kingdom, it began in Jerusalem. Nothing surprising about that. And then from Jerusalem to Judea Samaria and to the outermost parts of the earth. Why? Well, we've already talked about that to proclaim to all nations. Now what I want you to see is that Jerusalem is still at the heart of God's plan, and that's why it's so disappointing and so disingenuous for people to say that God's not interested in

real estate, of course, he's interested in specific real estate, the land of Israel and the capital of Israel, Jerusalem. Now let me just pause for a moment and share with you some important truth that's factual, and that's this so many times when I go and speak someplace, people come up to me and say, Well, what do you think about those poor Palestinian people? And we always see that Israel is kind of the bad guy, and the Palestinians are those, those victims. But let me say something if you are a believer, then you need to be interested in fellow believers. And this is a fact,

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when there is the Palestinian Authority that is ruling in Judea and Samaria, and we have Hamas ruling in Gaza. What has happened over the last several years, we've seen a reduction of believers in these two locations by 90% now people are talking about the change that has happened in Syria, that Assad is out, and there's a new new leaders within Syria that really surprised the world. And what I want you to realize is this, in 2011 there were 1.5 million Christians in Syria. Now we're looking at this 13 years later, and there's approximately 300,000 any time you put Islam in leadership over a country, what happens the believing population is persecuted and gets smaller and smaller and smaller. But as you know, where do I live in Israel? And we have a television show that airs throughout Israel. We've had it for over 10 years. We're not persecuted because of that. We have freedom to broadcast the truth of God in Hebrew to the Israelis, and we see that the believing community in Israel is actually growing. Now I would like it to grow faster, but it is growing. But in places like Bethlehem, that's under the Palestinian Authority, the population of believers, of Christians, are dwindling rapidly. So when you say, oh, I want to support the Palestinian people, what about the Palestinian believers? And any true believer who is a Palestinian, they are not going to want to support the Palestinian Authority. They're not going to want a Palestinian state, because a Palestinian state is going to to destroy that's their objective, to destroy believers in Messiah. So we need to understand biblical truth and not be be led astray by a false. Justice, a social justice that's in conflict with the authority of Scripture. So it sees, he says here that this Gospel begins from Jerusalem. Look now at verse 48 he says, But you speaking to believers, You are witnesses of these things. And then Messiah says to His disciples, and behold, look at verse 49 and behold, I send the promise of My Father unto you, but you remain in the city of Jerusalem, until which you be clothed with power from on high. So notice we see that they are called to remain in Jerusalem until a certain time we know what that is, Pentecost, or the Feast of Weeks, which is a holiday, a festival of the Lord that you can read about in Leviticus, chapter 23 and we see that from an Old Testament perspective, this is when the law was given. From a New Testament perspective, it is when the Holy Spirit was given. Do you think that's by coincidence? It is not. It is by design that through the Holy Spirit, we find the power to obey the Word of God. That's what a disciple is called to do. So he says here, look at the end of verse 49 but you remain in the city of Jerusalem, until which you are clothed. And by the way, you have to be clothed. You can't clothe yourself with this power. You have to be clothed by the coming of the Holy Spirit, having received that gospel so until which you be clothed with power from on high, verse 50, but he led them outside, outside unto Bethany. Now Bethany is on the Mount of Olives. We call it in Hebrew bet Ani, the house of afflicted. Once and over and over, when we talk about the will of God, the character of God, and how his followers should behave, it's going to lead to the world wanting to afflict the people of God, and this is going to be more and more true as we enter into the last days, meaning this, don't believe the popular things most of The time. People say, who hold this book, they say what they think people want to hear that is a tragedy, tragedy we should do, what we should say, the things that the word of God reveals, and the Word of God, when we look at the end times, we find that the context that those end time passages come to us within is a passage of persecution, a context of tribulation and suffering for the faith. And this is nothing new. It's always been the reality that those who walk in obedience with God are persecuted by the world. So it says here Look again at verse 50. He led them outside unto Bethany, and it says here that he lifted up his hands and he blessed them. And it came about when he was blessing them, that he was separated from them, and he was brought up into the heaven. So it speaks here about Messiah's ascension. Now all of that within the scripture in this context him ascending into the heavens from where he had descended previously. It's to show us, show us something, and that is he was talking about suffering. He was talking about going forth and telling the world, and all of that comes to us with the context of Messiah being taken back up into heaven, and that shows as well, his father's approval of all that he did and all that he taught, especially these things that he's teaching us as He concludes Luke's gospel. So he was separated from. 10 and he went up into the heavens, verse 52 now, what did these apostles, these disciples? What did they do? It says in verse 52 and they, After worshiping Him, notice that they were worshiping Him. Now, if he is not God, then they had committed a terrible sin, but he is God. He is Emmanuel, and they were right. It was from that teaching that he shared with them who he is, that they were right in worshiping him. Look at verse 52 and after they worshiped him, they returned to Jerusalem with great joy. Now, when we recognize who he is and what He has done, and when we are committed to his purposes. What's going to be the outcome of that? We will have, just like it says here, great joy. That's our God. That's what he wants to do. He wants us to obey Him, and the outcome of obeying Him is great joy. So never be hesitant to obey God. When you walk in His will, when you are committed to his purposes, you are inviting great joy into your life. Let's conclude. Look at our last verse, verse 53

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and they were all in the temple. Now there's a prefix here, a preposition dia which means thoroughly or continuously. So we might translate it this way, and they were all always in the temple. And what were they doing? Well, the best Greek manuscripts have the word praising and blessing God. Those two things, they were praising God. Why do they praise God? Because his will is perfect. They were praising him because he is a blessed God. So they were praising and blessing God, and notice the last word, amen. What does that mean? Amen is related to a Hebrew word, which means truth. All that Luke shared, it was the truth of God. We need to embrace it. We need to receive it, and we need to implement it into our life, that we are people who are faithful to the living God, and that we will be individuals that will know the joy of our Lord and Savior forever and ever. Amen.

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Well, we hope you will benefit from today's message and share it with others. Please plan to join us each week at this time and on this channel for our broadcast of loveisrael.org again, to find out more about us, please visit our website, loveisrael.org There you will find articles in numerous other lectures by Baruch. These teachings are in video form. May download them or watch them in streaming video until next week, may the Lord bless you in our Messiah, Yeshua, that is Jesus as you walk with Him, Shalom from Israel.