



## Sermon Summary

April 17, 2022

### Joy to the World Luke 24:36-49

Luke records three resurrection accounts. The first (24:1-12) is the witness of the empty tomb early Sunday morning. Jesus isn't seen, but the angels explain to the women why the tomb is empty – Jesus is risen! In the second (24:13-35) Jesus appears to two disciples on a journey to the town of Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. The third (24:36-49) is Jesus' appearance to the 10 disciples.

#### **A Joyless World**

Many people have for themselves, family and friends a simple wish – happiness. The wish isn't a bad one, but we often go to the wrong source to find it. Can happiness be found in health, relationships, wealth, entertainment, comfort and ease? Yes, it can. However, joy found there has no root and can quickly wilt or be stolen. If sickness, a fight with a spouse, an overdue bill, a bad loss by your favorite team, a disappointing meal or waning buzz from a high doesn't kill your joy, then fear, doubt, nervousness and worry will. This joylessness is where the disciples were. They knew Jesus died. They knew they might be next. Yet they'd heard Jesus was alive. What did that truth mean for them? What would happen next?

#### **Joy in Jesus**

Then, suddenly out of nowhere, Jesus was in their midst. They were startled and afraid because they thought Jesus was a ghost. Jesus knew their doubt. So, He invited them to look at the scars on His hands and feet. He encouraged them to touch Him and feel that He was flesh and bones. He wasn't a ghost. They still weren't convinced. Their fear had turned to joy, yet they still couldn't believe it. It was too good to be true! Jesus gave them another proof – He ate fish to show them He was alive in His body. They found joy in Jesus' presence!

#### **Learned in Scripture**

Jesus told the disciples that His death and resurrection shouldn't have been a surprise to them. He had predicted it (9:21-22; 9:44-45; 18:31-34) and had shown them from the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms (in other words, all of Scripture) that it was prophesied. This truth about the Scripture revealing Jesus is important and a comfort. None of us have seen Jesus. Yet we have the record in the New Testament of the witnesses who did. We also have the prophecies of the Old Testament. The Scriptures are sufficient to show us Jesus and give us a reason to believe in Him.

#### **Proclaimed to the World**

Not only was Jesus' death and resurrection predicted in the Old Testament, but also the rest of the story – repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in Jesus' name to all the nations beginning in Jerusalem. (This story is told in Luke's continued account of Jesus in the book of Acts). The disciples were witnesses. Jesus commissioned them to go and tell what they had seen. But they wouldn't do it alone. They would do it in the power of the Holy Spirit!