

Lk. 24:13-35: That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,¹⁴ & they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened.¹⁵ While they were talking & discussing together, Jesus himself drew near & went with them.¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him.¹⁷ & he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" & they stood still, looking sad.¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"¹⁹ & he said to them, "What things?" & they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed & word before God & all the people,²⁰ & how our chief priests & rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, & crucified him.²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, & besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning,²³ & when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive.²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb & found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."²⁵ & he said to them, "O foolish ones, & slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things & enter into his glory?"²⁷ & beginning with Moses & all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther,²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening & the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them.³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread & blessed & broke it & gave it to them.³¹ & their eyes were opened, & they recognized him. & he vanished from their sight.³² They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"³³ & they rose that same hour & returned to Jerusalem. & they found the eleven & those who were with them gathered together,³⁴ saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, & has appeared to Simon!"³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, & how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Intro: John Edgar: Have you ever been hopeless in your life? Has Jesus ever disappointed you, or from your perspective, let you down? Have you ever wanted something from Jesus, & you have not gotten it? Have you ever been disappointed with Jesus? Are you tempted to walk away. Then Luke 24 is for you! Jesus is there all along, & He died for your sins & rose again so that you might be with Him forever. (Presence now; Presence then; Word)

1. Your Greatest Need Is For Jesus To Draw Near

Lk. 24:13-15: That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem,¹⁴ & they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened.¹⁵ While they were talking & discussing together, Jesus himself drew near & went with them.

- a. Two of Jesus' followers: Lk. 24:9:** returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven & to all the rest
- b. They are leaving Jerusalem:** The Passover celebration is over, but they seem to be leaving Jesus behind too.
- c. Jesus draws near to them:** This is their greatest need! This is your greatest need! You need Jesus! **GOSPEL!**

2. Jesus Is With You And You Don't Even Know It

Lk. 24:16: But their eyes were kept from recognizing him . . .

a. These disciples were blind to the truth: Jesus was with them, but they couldn't see it! Jesus was with them, but they couldn't feel Him! What is real, what is true, what is most important is sometimes not clear to you! You can be deceived about what's true & right & best! Do not be deceived!

- 2 Ki. 6:16-17: He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

¹⁷ Then Elisha prayed & said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, & he saw, & behold, the mountain was full of horses & chariots of fire all around Elisha.

- b. Jesus is with you:** 1) Believers: Jesus is with you! He is risen! He is alive! He does have all power & all authority! His promise is "Behold I am with you always, even to the end of the age!" In the trials, in the suffering!
- 2) Unbeliever: Jesus is with you now! In this gathering, He is here calling you to come to Him!

Jesus is there all along, & He died for your sins & rose again so that you might be with Him forever.

3. Knowing That Jesus Is A Great Man Is Not Enough

Lk. 24:17-19: & he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" & they stood still, looking sad.¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?"¹⁹ & he said to them, "What things?" & they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed & word before God & all the people"

a. These disciples are sad & don't know what happened: P. Ryken: The question in v. 18 creates another one of the situational ironies that Luke uses to such dramatic effect in his Gospel. In truth, Cleopas was the one who did not know what was happening in Jerusalem! Jesus knew it all, better than anyone, for it had happened to him! He alone could explain what had transpired during his Jewish & Roman trials. He alone could testify what it was like to be mocked & tortured & to die in disgrace. He alone had felt the thorny crown upon his brow & the steely nail through his hands & feet. He alone could describe the inside of the dark tomb at the first light of the resurrection. Instead of being the only person who did not know what was happening, Jesus was the only person who did!
- **James Edwards:** Living disciples talk about a dead Jesus, while a living Jesus speaks with lifeless disciples.

b. They knew Jesus is a man: V. 19: "Jesus of Nazareth, a man"; Jesus is man! He is truly man!

c. They knew Jesus is a prophet: Deut. 18:15: The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you

d. They knew Jesus is mighty in deed & word: He turned water into wine; He cleansed lepers; He made the lame walk; He caused the blind to see; He caused the deaf to hear; He calmed the storm; He walked on water; He put an ear back on a man's head; He created bread & fish to feed thousands; He raised the dead; No man spoke like Him!

e. But knowing Jesus is a great man & prophet is not enough!: C. S. Lewis: I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man & said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic – on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, & is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him & kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet & call him Lord & God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

4. Jesus Is God

Lk. 24:19, 26: he said to them, "What things?" . . .²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things & enter into his glory?"

a. Notice how often God pursues His people by asking questions: Gen. 3:9, 11-13: But the LORD God called to the man & said to him, "Where are you?" . . .¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"¹² The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, & I ate."¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?"
- **Gen. 4:6:** The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, & why has your face fallen?"
- **Jon. 4:4:** the LORD said, "Do you do well to be angry?"

b. Jesus is God: 1) Angel of the LORD is the pre-incarnate Jesus Christ: **Jdg. 6:11:** Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah; **6:12:** the angel of the LORD appeared to him & said to him, "The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor."; **6:14:** the LORD turned to him and said; **6:16:** the LORD said to him

2) **Isa. 9:6:** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

3) **Lord!, Lord!:** The double vocative "κύριε κύριε", "Lord Lord" is used by Jesus four times as He refers to how people speak to Him (See: Matthew 7:21, 7:22, 25:11, Luke 6:46). "κύριε κύριε", "Lord Lord" is use 15 times in the Greek translation of the OT always & only referring to the Lord God Almighty! **JESUS IS GOD!**

5. You Were Once Blind In Unbelief

Lk. 24:25: & he said to them, "O foolish ones, & slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!"

a. Jesus rebukes these disciples: These disciples don't get it! They are foolish! They are blind in unbelief! Like the other Apostles: Jesus told them what would happen. God's Word told them what would happen. They're blind!

b. You were once blind in unbelief: 2 Cor. 4:3-4: even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Jesus is there all along, & He died for your sins & rose again so that you might be with Him forever.

6. Jesus Was Crucified

Lk. 24:20-21, 26: & how our chief priests & rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, & crucified him.

²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel . . . ²⁶ "Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things & enter into his glory?"

a. The physical suffering of crucifixion: Jesus was scourged; beaten; mocked; spit on; He was so brutally destroyed that He was unrecognizable as a human being (Isa. 52). The physical pain of crucifixion was unbearable!

b. The spiritual suffering of Jesus' crucifixion: On that cross, Jesus was bearing the wrath of God for the sins of His people. God's anger was upon Him; He was cursed by God; Pierced with God's sword of anger; drank the cup of God's anger; "drank damnation dry!"; He was stricken & smitten by God; He was crushed by God; He was forsaken by God; He was cut off by God; He was killed by God; God did not spare His own Son!

7. Jesus Rose From The Dead

Lk. 24:21-26, 33-34: Yes, & besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ & when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb & found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." ²⁵ & he said to them, "O foolish ones, & slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things & enter into his glory?" . . . ³³ & they rose that same hour & returned to Jerusalem. & they found the eleven & those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴ saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, & has appeared to Simon!"

God takes the worst & makes it the best: These disciples didn't expect Jesus to rise from the dead:

- **Ligon Duncan:** Now let me tell you, my friends, there is a very significant life experience lesson that we need to learn from this and it's this – when we are in circumstances in our lives which tempt us to think that God has thrown us a curve ball, that the rug has been pulled out from under us, that there is no hope, that we have been consigned to a misery that we do not deserve, that somehow God's plan has failed, we are exactly where these disciples were. All the lights have gone out for them. When you're in a circumstance that you did not want but you have, or if there is a circumstance that you have longed for with all your heart & you do not have it, & you think that God has thrown you a curve ball, you are right where these disciples are. They looked at these events, they look at the death of the prophet & Messiah that they loved & they think, "God, You've thrown us a curve ball," not

realizing the only curve ball thrown has been thrown at sin & death & hell & Satan. In this very event which they see as the end of the world, God has revealed His power in using it as His stratagem to display His glory in His redemption. & it is always like that in our own lives. When you are in the place where you are tempted to say, "This is too hard. This is not how it's supposed to be. My plan would be better if I were in charge" you are doubting the power of God in His redemption & resurrection. When you are there, He has you right where He wants you & you have no idea of the joy that He is capable of giving you when you believe it, when you trust it. No rug can be pulled out from under you when your confidence is in the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Jesus is there all along, & He died for your sins & rose again so that you might be with Him forever.

8. All The Scriptures Point To Jesus Christ

Lk. 24:26-27: Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things & enter into his glory?" ²⁷ & beginning with Moses & all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Nick Batzig: This is remarkable. The risen Christ is standing right in front of His disciples. He could have shown them His hands & feet & side! But He chose to point them to Scripture to convince them of Who He is & what He's done, & that He is risen! We need God's Word in all of life for all of the time! That's the highest view of the Bible you will ever get: the risen Jesus pointed to the Bible in order to point these disciples to Himself.

a. The Scriptures point to Jesus' suffering: Gen. 3:15: I will put enmity between you & the woman, & between your offspring & her offspring; he shall bruise your head, & you shall bruise his heel.

- **Ex:** Passover Lamb; **Lev:** Sacrificial System; **Num:** Bronze Serpent; **Deut:** Cursed is everyone hanged on a tree;
- **Ps. 22:1, 16, 18:** My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? . . . they have pierced my hands and feet . . . they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots; **Ps. 118:22:** rejected Stone becomes cornerstone
- **Isa. 53:4-5, 10:** Surely he has borne our griefs & carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, & afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, & with his wounds we are healed . . . it was the will of the LORD to crush him

b. The Scriptures point to Jesus' glory: Sign of Jonah; Ps. 16; Dan. 7:13-14; Ps. 22: He heard! He has not hidden His face! (v. 24); Isa. 53:10: he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.; Ps. 110: Christ glorious enthronement – all enemies are put under His feet!

Philip Ryken: Jesus is not just here or there in this prediction or that prophecy: he is everywhere in the O. T. He is the ark of the covenant & the blood on the mercy seat. He is the light on the golden lampstand & the bread of life. He is the prophet who preaches like Moses, the priest who prays like Aaron, & the king after David's heart . . . we see Jesus in the redemption of Ruth & Boaz, the selfless sacrifice of Samson, the kingship of Josiah, the miracles of Elijah, & all the other types & signs & figures of the O. T. . . . I could preach from the Scriptures every day for the rest of my life & not begin to exhaust everything that is said about Jesus in the O. T. On every page his coming is prophesied, his life is prefigured, his sufferings are personified, or his resurrection life is promised. The O. T. has one central theme, & that theme is Christ.

Jesus is there all along, & He died for your sins & rose again so that you might be with Him forever.

9. God Must Open Your Eyes To See Jesus

Lk. 24:28-31: So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, ²⁹ but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening & the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread & blessed & broke it & gave it to them. ³¹ & their eyes were opened, & they recognized him. & he vanished from their sight.

a. Jesus wants you to desire Him: Vs. 28-29: "He acted as if he were going further, but they urged him strongly – stay with us!" **J. C. Ryle:** [Christ] does not always force His gifts upon us, unsought & unsolicited. He loves to

draw out our desires, & to compel us to exercise our spiritual affections, by waiting for our prayers.

b. God opens the eyes of our heart: Acts 16:14: (Lydia) The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.

c. Jesus opens our minds to understand: Lk. 24:44-46: Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses & the Prophets & the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ & said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead"

d. Jesus brings us to a new & better Garden of Eden: Chad Bird: Garden of Eden: They eat of the forbidden fruit, their eyes are opened, they recognize they are naked, they are banished from Eden (Gen. 3:7).

- **Road To Emmaus:** They eat of the broken bread, their eyes are opened, they recognize Jesus, they go back to Jerusalem (represents the new Eden) (Lk. 24:32).

- Two people; eating; eyes opened; recognizing; God is there; leaving & returning.

10. May Your Hearts Burn For Jesus

Lk. 24:30-32: When he was at table with them, he took the bread & blessed & broke it & gave it to them. ³¹ & their eyes were opened, & they recognized him. & he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"

- A burning yearning for **Christ presence & Christ's Word:** Ps. 42; Ps. 63; Ps. 73:25

- **Jer. 20:9:** If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name," there is in my heart as it were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

11. May You Tell The World About Jesus

Lk. 24:33-34: & they rose that same hour & returned to Jerusalem. & they found the eleven & those who were with them gathered together, ³⁴ saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, & has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, & how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Matt 28:18-1:1: Jesus came & said to them, "All authority in heaven & on earth has been given to me. Go therefore & make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father & of the Son & of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. & behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Jesus is there all along, & He died for your sins & rose again so that you might be with Him forever.

Christ Jesus Came, In Love Drew Near
To Grant These In Emmaus Cheer
And Though Their Eyes Were Blind, Unclear
They Knew The Lord's A Prophet Seer
Mighty In Word And Deed Revere
But All Their Hopes Would Disappear
The Crowds And Soldiers Smear And Jeer
And Their Redeemer Died, It's Sheer
Pain And Sorrow, Piercing Spear
But Jesus Bore God's Wrath Severe
He Died And Rose, Does Now Appear

Alive Again To Quench All Fear
All Of Scripture Points Right Here
To Christ Our All And Pioneer
He's God And Man, Not Merely Seer
Who Opens Eyes With Truth Sincere
And Like God's Angel Disappear
Of All Perfection He's Premier
There's No One Like Him – Has No Peer
By Faith Let's Fight And Persevere
May Our Hearts Burn With Joy And Cheer
For God In Christ For Us Drew Near!