

Exegetical Notes, Luke 24:13-35

“What Was in the Scripture”

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Luke 24:13-35

Verse 13

Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem.

- It was still the Sunday on which Jesus arose.
- Two people who had been among Jesus’ larger group of followers, but not numbered among the Apostles, were leaving Jerusalem and going to Emmaus a little village seven miles away.

Verse 14

They were talking with each other about everything that had happen.

- They were talking about the events that had happened to Jesus that led to his death, and they had even heard news of his resurrection. See verse 22. But their minds were still under the control of darkness. They did not believe that Jesus had risen.

Verse 15-16

As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him.

- The resurrected Jesus joined them on their journey. But the darkness so engrossed their minds that they were unable to recognize him. They still believed that he was dead!

Verse 17-24

He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?” “What things?” he asked. “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and

deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

- These two people were clearly aware of all that had happened to Jesus. They had all the details correct.
- They were clearly within the inner circle of Jesus' followers for they knew the report of the women concerning his resurrection. They knew that some of the Apostles had been to the tomb and confirmed the report of the women about the tomb being opened and Jesus' body gone.
- However, it is clear that they did not believe that Jesus was risen from the dead. It is also clear that they did not know that the one to whom they spoke was Jesus.

Verse 25-27

He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

- See Isaiah 53. It would have been to passages like this that Jesus would have taken these people. See also Psalm 22. These and many other passages in the Old Testament point to the suffering and death of the Messiah. Jesus took time to open the word and show these people the truth about Jesus. However, they still could not grasp the meaning of what he said.

Verse 28-29

As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus acted as if he were going farther. But they urged him strongly, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them.

- As they approached Emmaus, still in the darkness, as evening set in, Jesus appeared to be going farther. But they begged him to stay with them through the night. So, even though they still did not understand

or believe, Jesus went into the house to which they were going to stay with them.

Verse 30-32

When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?”

- When they were at table that night, Jesus took bread and gave thanks for it and broke it. As he began to repeat the Lord’s Supper as he had done it in the upper room, the darkness suddenly broke loose and they recognized who Jesus was.
- He was suddenly gone!
- And just as suddenly all the hidden meaning in the Scripture became clear to them and they admitted to each other that their hearts had burned when he showed them the truth from the Bible.

Verse 33-35

They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.” Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.

- The two raced back to Jerusalem to tell the Apostles, and the believers there with them, that Jesus was risen.
- But those in Jerusalem with the Apostles were already excited because Jesus had come to Peter.
- The two confirmed the message of the women who had gone to the tomb and Peter. Jesus was risen from the dead!

(These exegetical notes are the foundational study for the sermon entitled *What Was in the Scripture*. They have been prepared by the Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen, Senior Pastor at Cornerstone Fellowship, Coatesville Pennsylvania. All rights are reserved by Dr. Jensen and *Cornerstone Fellowship*.)