

“On The Road To Emmaus”

Luke 24:13-53

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Teaching Aim: To explore the circumstances surrounding the appearance of Jesus to two of His followers as they walked home along the road to Emmaus. To examine the unique way Jesus revealed Himself to these travelers. To realize their excitement as they returned to Jerusalem that evening and shared their story with *“the eleven.”* To understand Jesus did rise bodily from the dead and that His resurrected body is a physical body, but different from ours today.

DIGGING DEEPER INTO GOD’S WORD *(BIBLE STUDY)*

Part I: A surprise visitor on the road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-24)

1. How many people do we find walking along the road to Emmaus in this story (**vs. 13**)? On what day did they make this journey? Why do you think these two followers of Jesus were downcast as they walking towards Emmaus? Have you ever gone through times of discouragement in your life where you just wanted to return home and crawl into a hole?

2. What does Scripture indicate the two men were doing during their seven mile walk to Emmaus? What events triggered such a heavy conversation (**vs. 15**)? Who approached the two as they discussed the various events of that day? Did these two followers of Christ recognize Jesus when He approached them (**vs. 16**)? Why or why not? In what way is this report similar to **John 20:14-15**?

3. According to **verse 17**, what was the demeanor of the two as they approached Emmaus? What caused their sadness? Have you ever been discouraged when things didn’t go the way you expected? What does God promise us in **Rom. 8:28**? Do you believe this?

4. Which of the two travelers responded to Jesus (**vs. 18**)? We don’t know for sure whether the travelers were two Jewish men walking together or whether the two were the aunt and uncle of Jesus? In light of **John 19:25-27**, why do many people believe the two were in fact a married couple; the uncle and aunt of Jesus? Although it seems odd that such close family members wouldn’t recognize Jesus, is it more likely that a married couple would invite Jesus into their home to feed Him than two individual men who happened to be journeying along the same highway (**vv. 28-30**)?

5. How did Cleopas respond to the question Jesus asked him in **verse 17 (vs. 18)**? Was Cleopas' response one of amazement, or was he being rude to Jesus? Why did Jesus respond in the way He did in **verse 19**? What two titles did Cleopas use for Jesus in **verse 19**? Did Cleopas call Jesus the Messiah? If not, why not?

6. According to **verse 20**, whom did Cleopas place full responsibility on for turning Jesus over to be crucified? In **verse 21** we get the first hint of why the two were downcast, what was the reason? The travelers were hoping Jesus would be the One to redeem Israel. Had their hopes been shattered when Jesus was crucified? What had these travelers expected from the Messiah? (See Commentaries) How did Jesus in reality fulfill their expectation? (See **1 Cor. 15:3-4; 1 Pet. 1:18-21**)

7. According to **verses 22-24**, how many testimonies had the two travelers received that Jesus had risen from the dead? Did they believe the reports (**vs. 17**)?

Part II: A lesson in Old Testament history pointing to the Messiah (Luke 24:25-32)

1. What words did Jesus use to rebuke the travelers in **verse 25**? Why do you think He rebuked them so sharply? Have you ever gone through times in your life where you were guilty of unbelief? If so, when?

2. What title did Jesus use to refer to Himself in **verse 26**? How is this different from the two titles Cleopas used in **verse 19**? What did Jesus say he would have to go through as Messiah in order to enter His glory? (See **Psa. 22; Isa. 53**) Some pastors say, "*All you have to do is come to Jesus and your problems will go away.*" Is this statement true? What is a more accurate statement? Why?

3. What was Jesus really saying in **verse 27**? How is the entire Old Testament so much more than normal history. It has been said, the Bible is "*His story.*" How? How do you see Jesus in the following Old Testament passages: **Gen. 3:15; Gen. 22:1-19; Deut. 18:15; Psalm 22:16-18; Isa. 53:4-5; Jer. 23:5-6; 31:31-34; Dan. 9:26; Zech. 12:10**?

4. What did Augustine mean when he said, *“The New Testament is in the Old concealed; the Old is in the New revealed?”*

5. What was Jesus ready to do as the three approached Emmaus (**vs. 28**)? How did the two travelers respond to the indication from Jesus that He planned to keep on going (**vs. 29**)? Why is it important for each of us to bring Jesus into our home? Is it implied here that if we don’t bring Jesus into our homes, He will keep on going until He finds someone who will? Is Jesus the Savior of your life? Is He the Lord of your home?

6. According to **verse 29**, how late in the day was it? What can we learn about the two disciples from **verses 29 & 30**? Was the breaking of bread in this story communion (the Lord’s Supper) or did it occur at a common meal? (See Commentaries) Why do you think the guest was allowed to preside over the meal and conduct the blessings in a home that was not His own? Did Cleopas know the resurrected Jesus was His guest at this point?

7. What happened the moment Jesus blessed the bread, broke it, and gave it to the two disciples (**vs. 31**)? What caused them to recognize Jesus? Do you think it was the words that He spoke (See **Matt. 26:26**)? Or is it possible that when He raised His hands to bless the bread they saw His nail pierced hands? What characteristic can we learn about the resurrected body of Jesus from **verse 31**? What can we learn from **verse 32** about how the teachings of Jesus affected them as they walked along the highway? How does spending time in God’s Word affect you? Do you yearn to learn more?

Part III: A visit from the resurrected Lord and proof of the resurrection (Luke 24:33-48)

1. According to **verse 33**, what did the two do that very hour? Why? What is the meaning of the phrase *“the eleven?”* What news did *“the eleven”* share with the travelers before they could even say anything (**vv. 34 & 35**)?

2. Who made a surprise visit to the disciples while they were meeting? Do you think this meeting took place behind locked doors (**vs. 36**)? (See **John 20:19**) What message did Jesus bring to His disciples? Why do you think He spoke of *“peace?”* Did they need peace at that moment? How did the disciples react (**vs. 37**)?

3. What problem had the followers of Jesus been struggling with according to **verse 38**? Do you struggle with doubt at times? If so, doubts of what? According to the Bible, what word of encouragement do you think Jesus would have for you in this case?

4. What did Jesus do in **verses 39-40** to prove that He was not a ghost (or spirit)? Why do you think Jesus showed His disciples His hands and feet? What if any significance is there in Jesus demonstrating that He had flesh and bones?

5. According to **verse 41**, did the disciples believe? As a result of their unbelief, what did Jesus ask them to do next in **verses 42-43**? Why? What did Jesus do after once for all proving to them that He had risen from the dead (**vv. 44-45**)? Can we understand the Scriptures today if God doesn't first open our minds? (See **2 Cor. 4:3-4**)

6. After taking His followers on a journey through the Old Testament Scriptures, what conclusion did Jesus come to in **verse 46**? According to **verses 47 & 48**, what should believers do as a result of the great truths of Scripture that were proven by the resurrection? What are you doing to minister to others in the name of Jesus today?

7. Who did Jesus promise to send to the disciples in **verse 49a**? What were the disciples instructed to do? (See **Acts 1:4-8**). What village did Jesus lead His disciples out to (**vs. 50**)? Who else lived in this little town? On what famous mountain was this city located? (See Commentaries).

8. What happened as Jesus blessed His disciples on the Mount of Olives (**vs. 51**)? What additional information can we learn about this event from **Acts 1:9-11**? How did the ascension affect the disciples of Christ (**vs. 52**)? Where did the disciples continually go following the ascension of Jesus Christ (**vs. 53**)? What were they doing? Is it your desire to continually go to the house of the Lord and worship Him?

7. Have you received Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord? If not, why not repent of your sins and do so in prayer right now?

MINER'S CORNER ~ *Manna to live by!*

- It is possible the two travelers walking on the Emmaus Road were the aunt and uncle of Jesus; Clopas and his wife Mary (the sister of Jesus' mother Mary). (See **John 19:25-27**)
- At times people were supernaturally kept from recognizing Jesus after the resurrection; that appears to be the case on the road to Emmaus.
- The two travelers were saddened because Jesus hadn't fulfilled "*their*" expectations of what they thought the Messiah should be.
- Jesus gave the two travelers a history lesson from the Old Testament proving the Bible really is "*His story!*"
- The resurrected and glorified Lord now has a physical body, but a body that is prepared for eternity.
- Our resurrected bodies as believers will one day be similar to the resurrected body of Jesus.