

THE ROAD TO EMMAUS, PART 2

ARRIVING AT JOY



WE HAD HOPED THAT HE WAS THE ONE TO REDEEM ISRAEL, BUT NOW ALL THESE THINGS HAVE HAPPENED.

DIDN'T OUR HEARTS BURN WITHIN US AS HE TALKED WITH US ON THE ROAD AND EXPLAINED THE SCRIPTURES TO US?

1. SCENE #1: THE WOMEN WENT TO THE TOMB TO SEEK THE LIVING AMONG THE DEAD, LUKE 24:1-11.

- (Luke 24:1–12 ESV) But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. 4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. 5 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, 7 that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.” 8 And they remembered his words, 9 and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. 10 Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, 11 but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

- A. The women went to the tomb looking for Jesus' dead body to make further burial preparations.
- B. At the tomb they met an angel who asked—Why are you looking for Jesus in the cemetery?
- C. The angel then reminded them that Christ had told

them what was going to happen.

- D. The women told these things to the apostles but their words were dismissed as an idle tale.

2. SCENE #2: THE CLEAR PROPHECIES CONCERNING THE DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION WERE FULFILLED RESULTING IN THESE TWO PILGRIMS LOSING HOPE, LUKE 24:13-21.

- (Luke 24:13–21a ESV) That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. 16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And 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 And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. 21 But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.

3. **SCENE #3: THE PILGRIMS ARRIVE AT JOY AS CHRIST OPENS THEIR MINDS TO UNDERSTAND THE SCRIPTURES REGARDING HIS DEATH, BURIAL AND RESURRECTION, LUKE 24:21-34, 44-47.**

- (Luke 24:21–34 NLT) **We had hoped he was the Messiah who had come to rescue Israel. This all happened three days ago.** 22 Then some women from our group of his followers were at his tomb early this morning, and they came back with an amazing report. 23 They said his body was missing, and they had seen angels who told them Jesus is alive! 24 Some of our men ran out to see, and sure enough, his body was gone, just as the women had said.” 25 **Then Jesus said to them, “You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. 26 Wasn’t it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering his glory?”** 27 Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. 28 By this time they were nearing Emmaus and the end of their journey. Jesus acted as if he were going on, 29 but they begged him, “Stay the night with us, since it is getting late.” So he went home with them. 30 As they sat down to eat, he took the bread and blessed it. Then he broke it and gave it to them. 31 Suddenly, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And at that moment he disappeared! 32 They said to each other, **“Didn’t our hearts burn within us as he talked with us on the road and explained the Scriptures to us?”** 33 And within the hour they were on their way back to Jerusalem. There they found the eleven disciples and the others who had gathered with them, 34 who said, “The Lord has really risen! He appeared to Peter.”
- (Luke 24:44–47 ESV) **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 and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”** 45 **Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,** 46 **and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,** 47 **and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.**

STUNNING ... NOW THERE SEEMS TO BE A CONSENSUS—A GENERAL AGREEMENT—AMONG THE APOSTLES, THE WOMEN AND THESE TWO PILGRIMS ... JESUS IS DEAD.

HOW CAN THIS BE?

I. THEY GOT THE GOSPEL WRONG.

- a. They were foolish in not believing **all** that the prophets had written concerning Messiah.
- b. They were foolish in not believing the clear teaching of Christ concerning his crucifixion.
- c. They were foolish in not believing the events that they themselves witnessed as affirmation of the truth of the Scriptures and the words of Christ.
- d. They missed the whole part about Jesus dying on the cross for their sins.

II. THEY GOT THE WILL OF GOD WRONG.

- a. They limited their understanding of Scripture to what they wanted to believe and to what they already believed.

MacArthur ... It wasn't that they didn't believe the Scripture; they did. It wasn't that they didn't think God wrote the Scripture; they did. **It was because they had satisfied themselves with a limited understanding of Scripture.**

- b. Limiting Scripture in this way demonstrates an unwillingness to accept the will of God.
- c. Since Scripture is the will of God it follows then that they missed God's will even when witnessing the events of the past week.
- d. They wanted a gospel that gave them a different outcome than Jesus dying on the cross.

III. SO HOW DO WE “GET IT RIGHT”?

- a. Confess the truth of God and repent of our foolishness and rebellion.
- b. Set our minds on things above so that we will seek first and foremost the will of God.
- c. Read, study and live the Scriptures in great humility and reverence seeking the will of God.
- d. Trust and believe what God tells us over and above everything else—even (especially) our will.
- e. Embrace and trust in God's mercy, love and grace as we carefully listen to God through his word through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- f. Know that this is the work of God alone—Only God opens blind eyes and brings a person to understand the Scriptures and so to understand the word of the truth the gospel.