

**The End of the Beginning**  
**Luke 24:13-33 (Easter 2010)**

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the central truth of our faith. Our present salvation and our eternal destination all depend upon the resurrection. The resurrection is the divine stamp of authenticity on the life and death of Jesus Christ. Paul said that Jesus was “declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead”, Romans 1:4.

1. The Perplexed Disciples (13-24)

***Traveling Home from the Passover Festival***

This was the “same day” (13) as the events recorded in verses 1-12. They certainly were talking about his trial and crucifixion. They were trying to make sense out of the events they had just witnessed when Jesus came to them. This is one of five post-resurrection appearances of Jesus on the first Easter Sunday. This is the first one recorded by Luke.

• **The resurrection of Jesus was a physical \_\_\_\_\_ resurrection**

This is Jesus in His resurrected glorified body. The resurrection body is fully human. Jesus displayed in His post-resurrection appearances that there is continuity between the earthly body and the new heavenly body. Later that night He will say to His disciples (39) “Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.”

The two disciples were prevented by God from recognizing Him. It was not unusual in that culture for travelers to join total strangers and walk with them on the road.

**A Beautiful Picture of Jesus Coming alongside of His Disciples Today In the Person of the \_\_\_\_\_**

John 14:25, “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name...”

• **The question of Jesus was aimed at their \_\_\_\_\_**

(17) “What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another”.

Jesus’ question literally stopped them in their tracks. The implication is that they began to walk again as they talked.

(18) “Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?”

Luke tells us in chapter 1 that he wrote his Gospel by interviewing “those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses” (1:2). Luke got this story from Cleopas. This encounter with Jesus centers around “the things which happened” in Jerusalem particularly the past week.

(19) “And He said to them, ‘What things?’...”

There is certainly a touch of humor here but Jesus is not toying with them He is teaching them.

**They Had the Information but they Were not Making the \_\_\_\_\_**

• **The confusion of the disciples was over the \_\_\_\_\_ and crucifixion of Jesus**

The problem was that they had no place in their theology for a suffering dying Messiah. They could not make the connection because of their tradition. Jesus said to the religious leaders of Israel “For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men”, Mark 7:8. They were selective in their use of scripture. They focused upon the passages concerning the ruling reigning Messiah. They passed over the passages concerning the necessity of His death. They focused on the parts of scripture that they liked. They thought that the story of Jesus of Nazareth had come to an end. (21) “But we were hoping”, their hope is in the past tense. They believed at this point that death had defeated Jesus.

Their confusion concerning His death caused them to doubt His resurrection in the face of the witness of the women, the angels, and the empty tomb.

**When You Ignore or Alter the Essential Message of Scripture You Foster Doubt and \_\_\_\_\_ Hope**

2. Jesus, the Expositor of Scripture (25-27)

***He Revealed the Scripture before He Revealed Himself***

- **He admonished them for their lack of \_\_\_\_\_**

(25) "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!"

They were slow to discern the essential message of the Bible. They were blinded by the glories of the promised kingdom and their selective approach to scripture.

**The \_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture Is Jesus Christ**

- **He instructed them in the \_\_\_\_\_ of scripture**

It is likely that Jesus began with Genesis 3:15. He probably illustrated this with the story of Cain and Abel. God accepted Abel's sacrifice because it represented the death of the innocent for the guilty. He surely must have taught them the picture of Abraham being willing to sacrifice his son, Isaac in Genesis 22. He surely would have reminded them of the significance of the Passover lamb without spot or blemish from Exodus 12. He must certainly have taught them significance of the sacrificial system, the tabernacle ceremonies, and the Day of Atonement. He probably took

them to Psalm 22:1, 16, 18. He surely took them to Isaiah 7:14. He probably reminded them that even the place of his birth was prophesied

in Micah 5:2. He could have taken them to the prophecy of the coming Servant of the LORD in Isaiah 42. He would have shown them that the miracles which He did, giving sight to the blind, casting out demons, walking on water were all signs that He was indeed the Messiah. He certainly would have spent some time in Isaiah 53. He probably quoted Psalm 16:10. There are many other Old Testament passages that Jesus could have quoted and probably did.

**The Old Testament Scriptures Clearly Portray and Present the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Substitutionary Death and Resurrection of Christ**