

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ

Jesus Appears to the Two Disciples on the Road to Emmaus

Last time...the determined hard-hearted unbelief of the Jewish leaders, even after sleepy guards and awakened saints come into Jerusalem bearing witness that Jesus is risen

This time...Jesus appears to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus

We will be in Mark 16 and Luke 24

Mark 16

v12-13 After that...another form...neither believed they them:

After that...after Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene and the other women
He appeared...Jesus makes another appearance – to two of “them”
(followers/disciples) as they were leaving Jerusalem
in another form...

- a “different”, “altered”
- “adjustment of parts”, “shape”, “nature”
- In His glorified body

The two disciples returned to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples...
but the others did not believe them any more than they believed

1. Mary Magdalene
2. the women
3. Jesus Himself (foretold 4x He would rise on the 3rd day)

Now, these 2 disciples join the list of eyewitnesses of the risen Lord
NOT believed by the 11 (less John) and the other disciples!
What is (still) the problem with the disciples? Unbelief

There are many more details recorded by Luke, details that fit between
v12 and v13

Luke 24

v13-14 Emmaus...talked together:

The same day...Resurrection Sunday...after they have heard the testimony of the women

- empty tomb
- saw angels..."He is not here, He is risen. Go to Galilee."
- Jesus appeared to them..."Go to Galilee."

the two disciples are on their way from Jerusalem to a village named Emmaus,
7-8 miles WNW of Jerusalem

As they walk, they are talking about what has happened this day, which they
learned from the testimony of the women

v15-16 communed and reasoned...Jesus...went with them...their eyes were holden:

While they were walking and talking and reasoning, trying to understand
(were they "searching the Scriptures" for answers
or doctrines and traditions of man or personal opinion?)

Jesus appears and goes with them

Where did He come from? How?

But they did not recognize Him

Why not?

- Their eyes were "holden"... "held fast", "retained"
They saw as they had seen before, not seeing afresh
They knew what Jesus looked like, this man doesn't look like Jesus
They have not seen this man before
They do not know who this man is
- He appeared in "another form" (Mark 16:12)

v17 What manner of communications:

Jesus joins the conversation and initiates the 3-way discussion

What is this you guys are discussing and reasoning among yourselves?

And why are you so sad?

(Evidence they did not believe the testimony of the women)

v18 Cleopas...only a stranger:
Cleopas answers Him

Cleopas,

- who was sad because he did not believe the witness of the women
- whose wife Mary, the mother of his sons James and Joses
 - was at the Cross of Jesus (John 19:25, Matt 27:56)
 - watched Joseph and Nicodemus bury Jesus (Mark 15:47)
 - went to Jesus' tomb early this morning (Matt 28:1)
 - was one of the women to whom 2 angels and then Jesus had appeared earlier in the day
 - who had borne witness to the other disciples of the risen Lord

is puzzled by this man's question

- Are you a foreigner to Jerusalem, a Gentile?
- Where have you been the last 3 days!
- Were you not paying attention to all that was happening this Passover?

v19-21 What things...Concerning Jesus of Nazareth:
Jesus responds, "What things?"

Tell Me.

Tell Me what you know.

Tell Me your assessment of those things.

Cleopas answers (we never hear from the 2nd disciple)

Concerning Jesus of Nazareth...as the Jews referred to Him,
not as Jesus the Son of the Living God

which was...but no longer is i.e. past tense

a prophet...as so thought, until "corrected"/revealed

- the Samaritan woman at the well (John 4:19, 25-26)
- the man born blind (John 9:17, 25, 32-33, 35-38)

mighty in deed and word...testimonies and evidence of His full Identity

before God and all the people...before the One Who sent Him and

before those to whom He was sent

the chief priests and rulers...the religious and civic leaders of the people
condemned to death...denied, did not believe His words or deeds

have crucified Him...He is dead, an accomplished fact

But we...His followers

trusted...expected, hoped

that it had been He which should have redeemed Israel...that He was our
Messiah and King, the Christ

today is the third day since...here we are three days later, our faith
shattered because our expected Messiah is dead and buried

v22-24 certain women...made us astonished...went to the sepulcher:

Cleopas continues his “education” of this man so out of touch with current events

Yea, and...now, so far today

certain women also of our company...including my wife

made us astonished...but did not restore our faith in Jesus because we did
not believe what they had to say

which were early at the sepulcher...at sunrise this morning

when they found not the His body, they came...to the rest of His gathered
disciples, and the two of us were present

they had also seen a vision of angels...nobody sees angels, right?!

(Note: it was not a vision)

which said He was alive...What? What are you women talking about?

(And why are you no longer mourning?)

certain of them which were with us went to the sepulcher...Peter and John
and found it even so as the women had said...sure enough, His body was
not in the tomb

but Him they saw not...not like the women who said that they saw Him

(So who are you going to believe, right?!)

v25-26 O fools and slow of heart to believe:

Having heard what these 2 disciples of His “know” and their assessment of
these things, Jesus corrects them

O fools...”not intelligent”, “not wise”, don’t know what they think they know
slow of heart to believe...dull, dim, shallow of heart and mind in the matters of

God, which require faith; slow on the uptake regarding all the deeds

I have done and words I have spoken

all that the prophets have spoken...ALL the prophets, without exception,
spoke of Me

(Adam, Cain, Job, AI&J, Moses, Jonah, David, Isaiah, Daniel, Zechariah,
etc etc etc)

Every prophet of God foretold of these things and their testimony is
recorded and preserved for you;

I expected you to know and believe the words of God

Ought not...must needs be

Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory...God’s Plan of
Redemption of Adam’s race (not just the Jews) – the Christ must suffer,
die, and rise again to pay for sin and to conquer death, man’s enemy

v27 beginning at Moses and all the prophets...expounded...all the Scriptures:
Then Jesus , the Living Word of God, expounded/interpreted/thoroughly explained all the Scriptures concerning Himself

- the Law/Moses
- ALL the prophets
 - Gen 3
 - Gen 22
 - Ps 22
 - Is 53
 - Dan 9
 - Jonah
 - Job 19
 - etc etc

To the Jewish leaders Jesus had said John 5:39
To the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, Jesus thoroughly explained that statement

Ps 40:7-8 (quoted in Heb 10:7)

Wow! What a Bible study!
Don't you wish you were there?!
If only this teaching had been recorded!

But...we do have such a

- Bible Study – the entire counsel of God, Gen to Rev is recorded for us
- Teacher – the Spirit of Christ (John 14:26, John 15:26, John 16:13)

So the issues are:

- Are we listening as intently as these 2 disciples were?
- Are we willing to put the time and effort into 2 Tim 2:15?

v28-29 they constrained Him:

Jesus' teaching takes the rest of the walk to Emmaus, their destination
Jesus pretended that He was going further...testing their faith and their hearts?
The 2 disciples urged/compelled this man to remain with them, to keep speaking of the meaning of Scriptures

After all, the sun is almost down
You cannot go much further anyway
Stay with us!!!

Jesus accepted their invitation

v30 sat at meat:

Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave to the disciples

Sound familiar?

This “First Supper” sure sounds a lot like the Last Supper, only even more personal and intimate

v31 their eyes were opened...knew...vanished:

As “this man” was giving bread to the 2 disciples, He showed...
His palms, His nail-wounded palms

Then the disciples recognized Jesus, by His wounds

Now, after Jesus’ teaching of the Word of God, they were seeing Him
intelligently and differently – with the eyes of faith able to see the clear
evidence of things hoped for

And when they did...Jesus dis-appeared, vanished, became invisible
His glorified body is no longer constrained by space and time

The risen Lord has now appeared to

- Mary Magdalene
- the other faithful women
- the two disciples on the road to Emmaus

And He dis-appeared right before these 2 disciples...a revelation of the nature of
His glorified body

v32 Did not our heart burn...He opened up to us the Scriptures:

Suddenly “alone” again, the 2 disciples are bursting with faith and excitement!
Their faith has not only been restored, it has been ignited!
Rom 10:17

Jesus Christ, The Word of God made flesh, made of the seed of David according
to the flesh, expounding/interpreting/explaining thoroughly/opening
widely the Word of God has set these 2 disciples on fire!

Personal Testimony

Monica and I were saved in a church where the teaching of the Bible was

- at the beginning amazing because I had never heard any of
these things in the Roman church of my youth
- after a few years, as we grew in our walks with the Lord,
shallow and dull and dim (preaching without teaching)

We craved more!

The Lord led us to Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa and Pastor Chuck Smith

The preaching and teaching of the Word of God was

- expositional
- verse-by-verse
- from Genesis to Revelation
- rich and deep and “meaty” and satisfying...nourishing

Our faith was ignited!

[my notes on CCCM Bulletin on the 1st Sunday we visited in May 1996]

Just as the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus had their faith ignited on that 1st Sunday, these 2 disciples had their faith ignited on our “1st Sunday” of Bible exposition

Pastor Chuck: “Get heartburn!”

We got “heart burn” that morning!

The Lord spoke to me: Create a “Heartburn” document for every book in the Bible. Record what you see. Record your questions.

I will show you how I am teaching you.

(entries are verse-by-verse by date)

To this day, updating those Heartburn documents is part of my preparation for Bible studies

In those documents I can clearly see evidence of the Holy Spirit teaching me – in the past 24 years

- my notes are deeper and broader as time goes on
- my questions are answered
- my errors of human reasoning are corrected
- my faith is increased

v33-35 returned to Jerusalem...Lord is indeed risen...appeared to Simon:

As soon as Jesus dis-appeared, the two disciples get up and go, as if there was a fire under their fanny!

Even though the day is far spent...sundown may have come...they high tail it back the 7-8 miles to Jerusalem to bear witness to the other disciples

- how “this man”...Jesus unbeknown to them...
 - rebuked their unbelief
 - expounded all the Scriptures concerning Him
- how they recognized Him when He gave them bread, exposing His wounded palms to them
- that Jesus is indeed risen from the dead

They arrived after dark, every bit as on fire as when Jesus was with them...
but, Mark 16:13b

Making Mark 16:13b even more “Wow!” is a piece of information not recorded in the other Gospel accounts and only mentioned here:
“and has appeared to Simon.”

When did the risen Lord appear to Peter (1 Cor 15:5)?
Had to be after He appeared to Mary Magdalene, the other women
Peter and John ran to the empty tomb
before He appeared to 2 disciples on road to Emmaus

What does this mean?

The restoration of Peter is soon to be complete
This process with Peter started with Matt 26:33-35
It blossomed in Matt 26:57-75
Its end was hinted at in Mark 16:6-7
Jesus’ personal appearance is recorded here
The process is completed in John 21 in Galilee

Application

1. eyes that are “holden”...held fast, retained
Sometimes we see what we want/expect to see and don’t see what we don’t want to see
Our eyes are “holden” in those cases
Illusionists make a living off of “holden” eyes
In matters of faith, we can’t trust our eyes, we must trust the Word of God
2. Are we slow/dull of heart and mind to believe the Word of God?
Are these words just stories written by men?
Are all these words the very words of God, or just some of them?
Are these words blasé or are they exciting and comforting and energizing?
3. Do you want “heartburn”?
Do you need your faith restored and/or inflamed?
Do you want to be on fire for the Lord Jesus Christ?
Are you hungry for more?

[text from this week...names changed]

I have a question regarding a church we are attending and I was hoping you could lend some insight for us. We were attending “Church A” . The pastor is great, and preaches truth. I am not a fan of how big it is. I like smaller churches and this one is a mega church. But the problem is, it’s 40 min away. This doesn’t allow us to be as involved and attend other events besides Sunday, as often as we would like to.

We decided to find a church closer to us. It's 5 min away called "Church B". A small start up church in a school (which I'm a fan of). I met more people there in 2 visits then I ever did at "Church A". The sermons were more on day to day living then factual and knowledgeable but they preached the Word. We liked it until.....I asked the pastor about current events relating to Ezekiel 37-39 and end times. This is when I started to doubt. When I asked about Ezekiel he told me "I don't really know if current events correlate to the Bible right now. People have speculated for over 100 years about the return of Jesus. But it doesn't change our day to day lives and how we live for Jesus so we shouldn't really concern ourselves with that." I was not liking that answer because he couldn't be more wrong. So I asked him about end times and his thoughts and he said "I don't know much about end times, I need to study more on that. I personally believe we are in the 1,000 year reign." I said "then that would mean that Jesus already came back for his second coming, because I believe that the thousand year reign is after the 7 years of tribulation when he sets up his kingdom back on earth." He said "yeah, who's to say that hasn't actually happened. I don't really believe in the premillennial."

Red flags red flags!!!! His preaching is true to the Bible about living for Jesus but this deeply concerned me. Is that a red flag to jump ship and go back to the other church? I feel like he's completely wrong and he doesn't even preach end times or Revelation in his church because he isn't real familiar with it. Like I said, it's a start up church and he's a younger guy just starting out. But if he is leading people to believe that, I can't get behind that thinking. I felt more comfortable at that church and loved how close it is and how small and connected it is than "Church A" because I'm just not a mega church, not knowing anybody, sort of person. But I'm thinking that small church is not a church we should go to. Should not having knowledge about end times stop someone from going to that church even though the rest of his preaching is on point? It's super hard to find a church out here. There's so many churches but to find that one church that just fits is hard. I liked the sermons at the mega church better than the small church but I met more people and connected to more people at the small church then I ever did at "Church A" because it's so big.

So confused about where is best. I was wondering if I could get your thoughts. It's a big red flag right? What that pastor said?

What say ye? What would your counsel be?

What would Jesus say to the pastor of "Church B"?

What is the testimony of the Holy Spirit to the pastor of "Church B"?

He is like the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus BEFORE Jesus appeared

His eyes are "holden"

He is not wise, slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken

With heartburn, you will "eat well" and mature/grow, be strong and healthy sheep

Without heartburn, you will run the risk of "malnourishment", "indigestion" and/or "food poisoning"

There is no substitute for time and effort when it comes to Rom 10:17

4. Expounding all the Scriptures

The cure for the Church today

- Thyatira: idolatrous religion
- Sardis: dead spirituality
- Laodice: lukewarm-ness

5. They constrained Him, Abide with us

A test for the disciples –

Do you want deeper fellowship with the Lord or is just a little of Him sufficient?

Are you constrained (“to force contrary to”) to seek and save the lost?

2 Cor 5:14 For the love of Christ constraineth us

Go share your heartburn!!!

6. Are you like the 11 (less John)?

Regardless of the eyewitness testimonies, you stubbornly refuse to believe that

Jesus Christ is risen.

How do you suppose Jesus will react to your unbelief?