

May 6, 2018

Luke 24:13-35
JESUS ON EVERY PAGE!

Ever been so engrossed in a conversation with someone that you completely lost track of time? Or, maybe, listened to a sermon that you hoped would never end? Lynda always plays a DVD movie when we drive to Chattanooga or Nashville. Why? Because time passes more quickly when you're engaged in conversation or entertainment! It's how you make a long journey into a short trip!

It's 7 miles from Jerusalem to Emmaus – *and isn't 7 miles just about how far our parents had to walk to school every day in snow up to their waists with no shoes?* 7 miles takes the average person @ 2 hrs to walk. But for Cleopas & his friend, this long walk became a short trip when Jesus joined them!

READ: Luke 24:13-35 (NLT)

I'll bet Jesus had a ball walking/talking with these 2:

- He kept them from recognizing Him *without a disguise!*
- He listened to their "foolish take" on events in Jerusalem
- He heard their shock about the rolled stone & missing body
- They told Him about a vision of angels who said He was alive
- Peter & John verified the women's crazy story @ resurrection
- He had opportunity to explain just how absolutely "...*all the scriptures*" describe the Messiah that God sent!

Jesus on Every Page quotes:

I believe we Christians today can take a lot from the experience of these (NT) 2 disciples. What happens to them with Jesus is a beautiful picture of our ongoing relationship w/ Him: working out our salvation in real life! Their experience during a 3-hour period models what happens to us thru our earthly life journey. We encounter Jesus in our circumstances – *whatever they are* – as He meets us/our needs by revealing Himself, often shedding new light on the scriptures, so that we know Him better & more completely; and knowing Jesus better means trusting Him more. This cycle of spiritual growth & trust is called sanctification!

Jeff's Testimony!

The bible describes what it's like to join Jesus on life's journey! Just as for Cleopas and the other disciple, when Jesus invites us to join Him in life thru salvation, we can expect 7 rising results:

- Better understanding of God, ourselves and scriptures
- Long conversations with the Savior, by His Spirit in us
- Some interactions in which we do not recognize Jesus!
- Jesus' miraculous presence/power in Spirit (*not physically*)
- Amazing, Maturing, Life-changing experiences with Jesus
- Evidence of transformation in holiness (*hearts burning*)
- Compulsion/craving for worship, fellowship & witnessing

For believers, Jesus IS on every page of the Bible – Old Testament and New! But He's also on every page of our on-going life stories! Some can trace God's work in their lives long before they became Christians! He is not living for us, choosing for us or deciding for us: but He certainly is walking with us, guiding us in His right ways, and leading us to experience the greatest life possible; extravagant love, devoted worship & dedicated service to others out of His immeasurable riches of glory and the fruitful channels of the Spirit's gifts!

You realize, of course, that we are all just as "foolish" as Cleopas and his friend! To varying degrees, we all lack the thoughtfulness & reasoning skills needed to connect all that God has written to reveal Himself, His purpose & His plan to bring us back into the loving life of The Trinity! But just as He did with them, Jesus is willing to meet us wherever we are, to give us whatever insights we need in order to know, love, and trust Him more with every passing day.

INVITATION TO RESPOND PERSONALLY:

Consider these questions:

- 1) Are you paying attention?***
- 2) Are you willing to learn?***
- 3) Are you changing?***

WORSHIP IN MEDITATION: Genesis 22:15-18

The bible tells the story about a father and a much loved son who travel together to a foreign land to make a sacrifice for worship. They take a donkey, some servants, they climb a hill, and the son carries on his shoulders the wood for the sacrifice.

Am I speaking of Abraham & Isaac on Mt Moriah, or the Father & Jesus on Mt Calvary? The connection between these 2 stories is deeply significant: Jesus is present in Isaac's story!

And the scripture says, *15) "Then the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven, 16) and said, 'By Myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son, 17) indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens, and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. 18) And in your Seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."*

Was God's promise to bless all the nations fulfilled thru Isaac, or Jesus? Yes! Jesus is the beloved Son of God in the line of Abraham & Isaac (not merely genealogy, but faith!). He is foreshadowed in the sacrificial ram provided by God as a substitute for Isaac; and He Himself is the Seed of Abraham thru which the entire world is blessed by God! This is just 1 chapter of 1 bible book! But if we'll look for Him, Jesus will be found on every page of the bible & every page of our life stories

Sermon in a Sentence: Jesus on Every Page!