

December 31, 2017

JESUS - FOREVER THE WAY!

Luke 24:13-35

This morning, in one phrase, Luke will answer the age-old question: *How exactly do the OT & NT work together?* This issue has plagued the church since its inception, separating believers, religions, denominations and church bodies throughout history.

We see the confusion demonstrated in many ways: Jews who still await the first coming of Messiah; Christians who still try to operate from the 10 C's; preachers who make no distinction in applying OT truths directly into the lives of congregants; & believers who treat the scriptures as a book of rules by which they can win or lose God's favor.

So, what is this one phrase Luke offers to begin properly fitting the OT & NT together? ***"And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he (Jesus) explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself."*** (Luke 24:27) The experience we'll have today on the Road to Emmaus will shed some significant light on fitting the OT & NT together into one story about Jesus!

READ: Luke 24:13-35 (NLT)

13-16) 2 believers walking together discussing Jesus! NORMAL!

-God prevented them from recognizing Him

17-24) the disciples recounted the events of the weekend

-Jesus gives them a chance to explain their understanding

-**SHACK:** *He knows, but listens as if for the first time*

-things @ Jesus: Prophet, Messiah, Redeemer, King

-“3rd day” = Resurrection claim; body gone from tomb

25-27) ***“Christ needed to suffer...to enter into His glory”***

-beginning w/ Moses (the exodus “salvation” story)

-10 C's; tabernacle; sacrifices; Sabbath; ethical laws

-**Using all Prophets/Writings, Jesus explained “Himself”**

Jesus started with the promise to Abraham about his descendant, and explained the Exodus from Egypt, the Passover, plagues, & parting of the Red Sea, worship at Mt Sinai, the 10 C's, the Promised Land, the wilderness wanderings, the conquest of Canaan, the Judges, the Kings, the plagues, and the disobedient idol worship that led to Israel's exile, the return of the remnant

and reconstruction of the temple, the fullness of time, John the Baptist, the immaculate conception of Jesus in Mary's womb, the visits from angels, shepherd's and wise men to worship God in the flesh! Jesus used the whole OT to tell His story! Truly, the OT is all about Christ, His coming and why He is necessary!

28-35) He opened their eyes to recognize Him **(31)**

31-45) understanding truth/scriptures/prophecy=from God

29, 33) travel after dark = dangerous! Robbers on trade rds

-But NO danger/fear stopped them from testifying!

CONCLUSION: The OT/First Covenant is a model, a shadow, a precursor to the NT/Final Covenant = ***the real thing, genuine article, ultimate reality.*** Christians do not operate under the OT (*news to Catholics*); Christians do not operate under the 10 C's (*that characterize OT*); We operate under the NT/NC in Christ's blood by the power of His Spirit! **Heb 8:7** = insufficient/ faulty

Mediator:	an angel	Son of God
Sacrifices:	animals	Jesus blood
Forgiveness:	per sin	Once for All
Worship:	earthly	Heavenly
Sanctification:	still guilty	made Holy
Blessing:	promised	Received!

2Cor 3:15-18 – Of insufficient “glory”

If you're in Christ thru repentance & faith, rebirth & conversion, then the Law has done it's work: ***proved to you that you couldn't save yourself and led you right into the arms of Jesus, God's Savior!*** ***“Christ is the end of the law for believers!”*** Your body is the new temple of worship; 10 C's are replaced by the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus; Jesus is our Mediator making constant intercession, & it is His obedience that continually qualifies us in right relationship with God! From beginning to end – it's Jesus!

INVITATION TO RESPOND PERSONALLY:

- 1) Is your life “all about Jesus” or still all about you?
- 2) Are you finding more of your true self in Him daily?

WORSHIP IN MEDITATION: Genesis 12:3

“I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”

Do you recognize this scripture? Who is speaking? To whom is God speaking?

The bible considers God as speaking to Abram AND thru him to his descendant, the one in whom the promises of God would be ultimately and completely fulfilled. *And who is that?* Jesus!

Galatians 3:16 – The promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. Scripture does not say “and to seeds,” meaning many people, but “and to your seed,” meaning one person, who is Christ.

So...God’s promise to bless those who bless Abram ultimately means those who bless Christ; and those who treat Christ with contempt remain cursed. All those who trust Jesus are blessed with eternal Life from God; all those who reject Christ remain under the curse of eternal death. Here, in Genesis, is the Gospel in its early form spoken to Abram...but it’s all about Jesus!

Jesus the one Source of blessing from God forever!

Sermon in a Sentence: Jesus – Forever The Way!

Luke 24:13-35 (NLT)

13That same day two of Jesus’ followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem. **14**As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened. **15**As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them. **16**But God kept them from recognizing him.

17He asked them, **“What are you discussing so intently as you walk along?”** They stopped short, sadness written across their faces. **18**Then one of them, Cleopas, replied, “You must be the only person in Jerusalem who hasn’t heard about all the things that have happened there the last few days.” **19****“What things?”** Jesus asked. “The things that happened to Jesus, the man from Nazareth,” they said. “He was a prophet who did powerful miracles, and he was a mighty teacher in the eyes of God and all the people. **20**But our leading priests and other

religious leaders handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him. **21**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.”

25Then 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.**

28By 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.” **35**Then the two from Emmaus told their story of how Jesus had appeared to them as they were walking along the road, and how they had recognized him as he was breaking the bread.

Heb 8:7 (NLT)

7) If the first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no need for a second covenant to replace it.

2Cor 3:7-11 (NLT)

7The old way, with laws etched in stone, led to death, though it began with such glory that the people of Israel could not bear to look at Moses’ face. For his face shone with the glory of God, even though the brightness was already fading away.

8Shouldn't we expect far greater glory under the new way, now that the Holy Spirit is giving life? 9If the old way, which brings condemnation, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new way, which makes us right with God! 10In fact, that first glory was not glorious at all compared with the overwhelming glory of the new way. 11So if the old way, which has been replaced, was glorious, how much more glorious is the new, which remains forever!

2Cor 3:14-16 (NIV)

14But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. 15Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. 16But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.