

Luke 24:13 - 27 (NASB)

¹³And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem.

¹⁴And they were talking with each other about all these things which had taken place.

¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and *began* traveling with them.

¹⁶But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him.

¹⁷And He said to them, "What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?" And they stood still, looking sad.

¹⁸One *of them*, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, "Are You the only one visiting Jerusalem and unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?"

¹⁹And He said to them, "What things?" And they said to Him, "The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people,

²⁰and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him.

²¹"But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened.

²²"But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning,

²³and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive.

²⁴"Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but Him they did not see."

²⁵And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

²⁶"Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"

²⁷Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

Breaking it down:

- Emmaus was a small village eight miles northwest of Jerusalem.
- The two men walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus were discouraged disciples who had no reason to be discouraged.
- They had heard the reports of the women that the tomb was empty and that Jesus was alive, but they did not believe them.

Isa 53:1 (KJV)

¹Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?

- They had hoped that Jesus would redeem Israel (Luke 24:21), but their hopes had been shattered. We get the impression that these men were discouraged and disappointed because God did not do what they wanted Him to do. They saw the glory of the kingdom, but they failed to understand the suffering. Sounds a lot like us today.
- Jesus graciously walked with them and listened to their "animated heated conversation" (Luke 24:17, according to the original Greek these words were "heated").

Jesus three very critical and intriguing questions to the two men. Whenever Jesus ask a question:

1. He is NOT asking to be informed or enlightened. He already knows the answer.
2. He is always asking for the benefit of the individual, the hearer, and ultimately us, the reader.
3. He is usually trying to promote confrontation, conviction or confession.

Jesus' questions:

v.17 - "What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?"

v.19 - "What things?"

v.26 - "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"

- He had been at the heart of all that had happened in Jerusalem, and now He was asking them to tell Him what occurred! How patient the Lord is with us as He listens to us tell Him what He already knows (Rom. 8:34). But we may come "boldly" ("with freedom of speech") to His throne and pour out our hearts to Him, and He will help us (Heb. 4:16).

PSALM 62:8 (NLT)

**O MY PEOPLE, TRUST IN HIM AT ALL TIMES.
POUR OUT YOUR HEART TO HIM,
FOR GOD IS OUR REFUGE.**

- The longer Cleopas talked, the more he indicted himself and his friend for their unbelief. What more evidence could they want? Witnesses (including Apostles) had seen the tomb empty. Angels had announced that Jesus was alive. Witnesses had seen Him alive and heard Him speak. The proof was there!
- "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Rom. 10:17). This explains why Jesus opened the Word to these two men as the three of them walked to Emmaus. Their real problem was not in their heads but in their hearts (see *Luke 24:25 and 32, 38*). They could have discussed the subject for days and never arrived at a satisfactory answer. What they needed was a fresh understanding of the Word of God, and Jesus gave that understanding to them. He opened the Scriptures and then opened their eyes, and they realized that Jesus was not only alive *but right there with them!*
- What was their basic problem? They did not believe all that the prophets had written about the Messiah. That was the problem with most of the Jews in that day: they saw Messiah as a conquering Redeemer, but they did not see Him as a Suffering Servant.
- As they read the Old Testament, they saw the glory but not the suffering, the crown but not the cross. The teachers in that day were not unlike some of the "success preachers" today, blind to the *total* message of the Bible.

Monday Morning Moment: Action Step –

"Lord, please make our eyes open to see You, our hearts open to receive Your Word, and our lips open to tell others about You!"

Ezra 7:10 (NLT) ¹⁰This was because Ezra had determined to study and obey the Law of the LORD and to teach those decrees and regulations to the people of Israel.