



CONVINCED?

Luke 24:13- 53

What experience might make you much more dedicated to the Lord than you presently are? What about seeing Him?

A. A Revelation (Luke 24:13-35)

Luke plays with our frustration in these last scenes in the book. We inwardly wrestle with why it took so long for the disciples to identify Jesus. We feel like shouting, "It's Jesus; it's Jesus!" But they can't hear us. Jesus goes on and on speaking, while they get further and further away from Jerusalem.



The Walk to Emmaus by Lelio ORSI after 1550 Copyright Art Gallery in London

Testimony of the Hopeless

Luke 24:19-24

1) Objective Evidence for the Resurrection

"prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people" (19)

"delivered Him up to ... death and crucified Him" (20)

"hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel" (21)

"the third day ... did not find His body angels, who said... He was alive ..." (21-23)

"exactly as the women also had said" (24)

Teaching of Christ

Luke 24:25-27

2) Scriptural Evidence for the Resurrection

"was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer" (26)

"with Moses and with all the prophets He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures" (27)

Appearance of Christ

Luke 24:28-35

3) Physical Evidence for the Resurrection

"He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it" (30)

"And their eyes were opened." (24:31)

"and He vanished from their sight" (32)

Our Response to Jesus Christ

And us?

What blinds us?

"But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him." (24:16) "And their eyes were opened." (24:31)

What does it take to open up our eyes? A revelation that Jesus Christ is alive?

"If we could only see Him!"



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B. An Appearance (Lu 24:36-53)

Jesus stood in their midst. Why all the confusion?

startled
frightened (see a spirit)
troubled

Certainly we find any theory about a revived close-to-death Jesus clearly rejected here. If they encountered a sickly person, they would have immediately tended to his wounds. But Jesus was well.

Jesus showed them His body. He even ate with them.

Hands
↓
ate broiled fish
Feet

The emphasis on Christ's body was also to prove to the Docetists that Christ bodily suffered, died, and raised. Docetists believed matter was evil and so it only 'seemed' that Christ had a body.

Jesus then repeated to them what He said to them when He was with them before. The scriptures must be fulfilled.

“And He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures” (24:45)

The Gospel did not derive from the imaginations of men but by what happened and what was seen. Theology is the logical and consistent interpretation of significant activities by God on earth.

Jesus again told them:

- 1) He had to suffer,
- 2) rise again from the dead on the third day,
- 3) and that repentance for forgiveness of sins be proclaimed in His name to all the nations beginning in Jerusalem.

We are blinder than we think. Scripture without the Spirit is totally inadequate. They needed the Spirit just as we do.

“But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you all know.” (1 John 2:20)

“And as for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you; but as His anointing teaches you about all things, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you abide in Him.” (1 John 2:27)

SUMMARY

We think if things were normal that we could gain spiritual insight by just reading the scriptures. Or if we just saw Jesus - maybe for a split second - that we would be all set and ready to go. But there are dynamics here that we don't fully comprehend.

Luke was readying their minds for the Acts of the Holy Spirit. Enlightenment and power derived from the Spirit. Their ensuing ministry would necessitate a special work of the Spirit of God in their lives not to mention our own.