

# Revealed

**May 23, 2021: Luke 24:13-35**

Have you ever noticed how many significant biblical events have to do with journeys? For instance, the Apostle Paul's dramatic encounter with the risen Christ took place as he was traveling to Damascus. Abram was traveling through the land of Canaan when God first identified that as the Promised Land.



Today's lesson is based on Luke's account of "the Emmaus Road experience," in which the risen Jesus joins two disciples as they walk from Jerusalem toward the village of Emmaus.



They fail to recognize him at first. The disciples tell Jesus about all the events in Jerusalem during Passover week and the crucifixion of Jesus, the one they believed to be the Messiah. They are very confused about all that happened, including the empty tomb.

Jesus teaches them about himself, drawing upon Old Testament scriptures. Finally, as they share a meal in Emmaus, they realize who Jesus is! Overwhelmed with joy, they hasten back to Jerusalem to tell the good news to the apostles. [excerpts from Lucien Coleman]

## **Questions** (Luke 24:13-17; 18-24)

- Two of Jesus' disciples (not from the eleven apostles but of his larger group of followers) had been in Jerusalem for the Passover for about a week, and they had to journey home to Emmaus.
  - **"What are you discussing ..."** – Jesus engaged the two in conversation - **"They stood still with their faces down."**
  - **"Cleopas asked .. are you the only one who does not know?"**
    - **"What things?"** Jesus used questions to help His followers 'connect the dots.'
  - The following description of Jesus offers insight into the disciples' conception of who Jesus was.
    - Jesus of Nazareth – **"Prophet"** (they did not understand His divine role as Messiah)
    - **"mighty in deed and word"** validated **"before God and all the people"** – His words were authoritative as opposed to the empty teachings of the scribes (Mark 1:22).
    - Chief Priests **"handed Him over"** to be **"sentenced to death"** and **"they crucified Him"**.
    - We had hoped He would **"Redeem Israel."** Jesus' followers thought His kingdom would be one that overthrew the Romans and restored Israel's Davidic Kingdom.
  - **"The third day"** – The disciples may have recalled Jesus' predictions of rising again, but they were impatient and unbelieving.
  - **"the women"** went to the tomb this morning, but **"did not find His body."**
    - **"Some of our companions"** (Peter and John) **"saw not"**.  
They needed to be an eyewitness to the resurrection.
- **How well do you know Jesus?**
- **Do you recognize His work in your life?**



### Answers (Luke 24:25-27)

- ***“O fools and slow of heart to believe”***
    - Jesus is not calling the two disciples silly or unintelligent.
    - Foolish refers to being unwilling or unable to understand something that should be obvious.
  - Slow of heart indicates they were thinking from past experience and not having total faith in the Word.
  - ***“Ought not Christ to have suffered these things ...”***
    - The two disciples should have known what Jesus said about the need for His death and resurrection.
    - They had read Isaiah, but they couldn't comprehend a suffering servant Messiah would mean crucifixion.
  - Jesus could have taken Satan's shortcut and sidestepped the cross, but He didn't.
  - ***“... and to enter into His glory”***
    - His glory involves His return to heaven where he reigns with God the Father.
    - His glory also refers to the power and glory of His second coming.
    - Christ's glory is the salvation of believers. His death was the price of redemption.
  - ***“Beginning at Moses and all the prophets...expounded unto them”.***
    - They had heard the words but didn't understand their meaning.
    - From Genesis to Malachi, the story of the Messiah is laid out, culminating in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Son of God. God reveals His truth through His Word.
- ***Where do people turn to find answers about life? ... about Jesus?***
- ***How well do you recognize prophecy? Are you aware of God's work in events?***



### Recognized (Luke 24:28-31; 32-35)

- As they neared the village of Emmaus, Jesus indicated He was going to continue on further.
    - The two disciples encouraged Jesus to ***“abide with us”***. It was getting late in the day and travel at night carried risk. Hospitality to strangers was common in this era.
  - ***“And He went in to tarry with them.”*** After the journey, they likely washed, relaxed and conversed as they got ready for supper.
  - Although Jesus was the guest, ***“He took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.”***
    - Instantly ***“their eyes were opened, and they knew Him.”***
    - Immediately Jesus ***“vanished out of their sight.”***
  - Jesus resurrected body was not limited by time and space. Had Jesus not departed, the two disciples would have stayed in Emmaus with Him.
  - ***“Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us.”***
    - Jesus interpreting the Old Testament prophecies to them touched them deeply.
  - ***“They got up and returned to Jerusalem at once.”*** They found the eleven disciples who were eager to share with them ***“It is TRUE. The Lord has risen!”***
- ***How excited are you about Jesus' presence?***

### Biblical Truth:

***Jesus reveals His identity to those seeking Him.***

*“In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.” Hebrews 1:1-2*

