

Dartmouth Bible Notes



Notes From the Pulpit Ministry of Dartmouth Bible Church
Series: Easter (Resurrection Sunday)
Scripture: Luke 24:13-35
Speaker: Rev. Neil C. Damgaard, Th.M., D.Min.
Date: April 4th, 2010

The Road to Emmaus

PP 1,2,3

Introduction This is a wonderful postscript to Luke's full account of all that happened on the first Resurrection Sunday. In fact, it is so good that some just think it is fiction. I see no reason to interpret it as fiction, though. I see every reason to imagine that Luke included it, after reading Mark's and perhaps Matthew's accounts of that Sunday.

Luke 24:13-35 (NASB)

¹³ And behold, **two of them** were going **that very day** to a village named **Emmaus**, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And they were conversing with each other about all these things which had taken place. ¹⁵ And it came about that while they were conversing and discussing, **Jesus Himself** approached, and *began* traveling with them. ¹⁶ But **their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him.** ¹⁷ And 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. ¹⁸ And one 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?”** ¹⁹ And He said to them, **“What things?”**

Sunday afternoon

Prob. Emmaus Nicopolis today

Why? Most commentators do not speculate. Jesus kept them from immediately seeing Him for who He was. Maybe He wanted to manage the moment of their recognition...

Not the 12, but friends

This is Luke's testimony. This was not a phantom, or an impostor. It was Jesus, risen.

PP 4,5

They can't believe this man didn't know the headline news! The crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth was the biggest news of the time!

Calling him a prophet was all they could do! And that is no problem for most, even today.

THAT's what all the people wanted. Take us back to the glory days of David and Solomon!

The MAIN evidence for Christianity: no body.

A rebuke for not believing based upon what they should already have known.

PP 6

Study the writings of Moses, and you will see Jesus in there. Study the Psalms and the Prophets and you will see Jesus in there. We have a wonderful advantage and blessing today, being able to *look back* on the pages of the O.T.

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, ²⁰ and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him up 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, ²³ and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels, who said that He was alive. ²⁴ "And 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." ²⁵ And 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?" ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

The popular opinion was that it was the leaders who had brokered Jesus' cruel crucifixion. This is not anti-Semitic to say so. Everyone knew at the time who had wanted Him out of the picture. Its just the history.

Women just as important as men

One of the coolest parts of the story! Angels were there. Matthew tells us it was an angel who actually rolled away the stone. MARK says it was a young man in a white robe. JOHN says it was two angels, in white.

I'm sorry. The Old Testament forecasts the coming of Jesus of Nazareth. This is what Luke says Jesus said. People can choose not to believe that—that there is some other Messiah coming.

PP 7,8

Hospitality is a good thing! If they had just let Jesus go on down the road, what a blessing they would miss!

Has this happened to you yet? Have your eyes been opened? Do you see Jesus, the Risen King, for who He is? These men received a gift of grace to see and recognize Him. They were not scholars or adventurers.

PP 9

They reported in. HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!!! I love how it was said, "He is really risen!" It is a reality. It is a fact. It has happened!

PP 10

28 And they approached the village where they were going, and He acted as though He would go farther. 29 And they urged Him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is getting toward evening, and the day is now nearly over." And He went in to stay with them. 30 And it came about that when He had reclined at the table with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it, He began giving it to them. 31 And their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. 32 And they said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?" 33 And they arose that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, 34 saying, "The Lord has really risen, and has appeared to Simon." 35 And they began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.

Jesus gave thanks for the bread—that's what it meant to "bless" it. He passed it around, sharing, too. Something about how He did it must have seemed familiar to the two men. This wasn't really a "Lord's Table" observance but it was similar. The Bread of Life broke bread for them, and they could instantly see who this was!

To have the Living Word explain the Written Word, how I would love to hear that! And we shall. I do not know the role the Written Word will have in the kingdom but somehow our hearts will burn with love when we hear His voice!

The Lord's creativity in what He uses, and the circumstances He uses to reveal Himself to people!