

Luke's Account of the Resurrection

April 15, 2018 – Adult Sunday School

Four main sections:

The Empty Tomb 24:1-12

The Road to Emmaus 24:13-35

The Appearance to the Eleven 24:36-49

The Ascension 24:50-53

Acts 1 (sequel to Luke's gospel):

Forty days, many proofs 1:1-3

Promise of the Spirit 1:4-8

The Ascension 1:9-11

Main Themes in Luke 24:

1. Jesus' Resurrection is a Fulfillment of the Scriptures

- 24:5-8 And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man **must** be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise." And they remembered his words...
- 24:25-27 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not **necessary** that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.
- 24:44-47 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms **must** be fulfilled... Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem."

Where do "Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms" say that the Messiah must first suffer and then enter into his glory?

- Suffering & Glory of Joseph (Genesis 37-50)
- Suffering & Glory of David (1 Samuel 16-2 Samuel 20)
- Suffering & Glory of the Forsaken One (Psalm 22)
- Suffering & Glory of the Servant (Isaiah 53)

Why is this theme important in Luke's gospel?

- Remember Luke's statement of purpose for his gospel (1:1-4): "Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile *a narrative of the things that have*

been accomplished [fulfilled] among us, ² just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, ³ it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught."

What are some implications of this theme for us?

2. Initial Confusion and Later Recognition of Jesus' Disciples

Initial Confusion:

- The women were initially "perplexed" (v 4) and "frightened" (v 5) when they saw the empty tomb.
- When the women told the male disciples that the tomb was empty, they thought that it was "an idle tale, and they did not believe them" (v 11)
- On the road to Emmaus: "Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him" (v 15-16)
- "Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And he said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?" (v 36-38)

Later Recognition:

- "And [the women] remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest" (v 8-9)
- "Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened" (v 12).
- "And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him" (v 31)
- "Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures" (v 45)

Why do you think Luke brings out this theme, that the disciples were initially confused but later recognized Jesus?

What implications does this theme have for us as Jesus' followers today?