The Profound Difference a Risen Christ Makes

Luke 24:13-35
March 2, 2025

The Big Idea: The circumstances of our lives are often overwhelming. Without the resurrection of Jesus, we will be without hope and consumed by fear. Jesus is available to you, but He waits for you to believe in Him and ask Him in.

Luke 24 (ESV)

13 That very day two of them were going to a village named
Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and they were talking with
each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were
talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with
them. 16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 And he said to
them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as
you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. 18 Then one of them, named
Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does
not know the things that have happened there in these days?" 19 And he
said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of
Nazareth, a man who ***was*** a prophet mighty in deed and word before
God and all the people, 20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered
him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. 21 But we ***had***
hoped that he was the one to **redeem** Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it
is now the third day since these things happened. 22 Moreover, some
women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the
morning, 23 and when they did not find his body, they came back saying
that they had even 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 as
the women had said, but him they did not see." 25 And he said to them,
"O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have
spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things
and enter into his glory?" 27 *And beginning with Moses and all the*
Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things
concerning himself.

28 So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted
as if he were going farther, 29 but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay
with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he
went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at table with them, ***he took***
the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. 31 ***And their***
eyes were opened, and ***they recognized him***. And he vanished from
their sight. 32 They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us
while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?"
33 And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they
found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,
34 saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"
35 Then ***they told what had happened on the road, and how he was***
known to them in the breaking of the bread.

What is Our Problem?

1. We are broken and sinful people in need of a Savior.
2. Even if we believe Jesus died on the Cross, if we believe it was because mean people got the best of Him and if we believe He is still dead, we have no Savior.
3. We're all in need of being redeemed.

Are There Reasons to Have Hope?

1. Never assume that God's silence means He is uninvolved in our lives and not working for His glory and our good!
2. We Find Jesus All Through Scripture.
   Genesis 3:15; Genesis 22; The Passover; The Exodus; Isaiah 53; Psalm 22; Psalm 69; 2 Corinthians 1:20
3. When you find Jesus, you find the explanation for your life.
4. Jesus will come into your life, if you ask Him in.
   Luke 24:29 "but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us…"
5. I must surrender my expectations and trust Him and His plans for my life.

We are Easter people marching from Crucifixion Friday through Silent Saturday on our way to Easter Sunday.