

Context

1] After the death of Jesus on Friday afternoon, He was hurriedly buried in a tomb

2] Following the sabbath, a rest day, the women returned there to anoint His body, early on Sunday morning but found it gone. They were told by two angels 'He is not here; He has risen' (24:6)

3] They relayed this to the unbelieving disciples, but Peter went to check it out and found the tomb empty (24:12)

Intro

"There are none so blind as those that cannot see" is an old English proverb

It is possible to have Jesus before us but not to believe in Him.

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.

I.e. 'that very day' was the day after the sabbath, the Saturday. i.e. the Sunday, the day of the resurrection

Nb the present day location of Emmaus not known – Emmaus means 'warm spring' – cf Jesus "whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, out of His heart will flow streams of living water (John 7:38)

60 Stadia from Jerusalem – 6 is imperfect (7 is God's perfect number) – these two are heading away from Jerusalem, God's city, the site of and on the day of the resurrection i.e. wrong direction!

Though we are going away from God, in His grace, He reveals Himself to us

When unsure of what God is doing, rehearse the facts as the disciples were doing

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.

Be aware of the closeness of Jesus even if we don't perceive Him – He is here!

God is in total control – He both keeps eyes closed and opens eyes

17 And (Jesus) said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad.

I.e. they were 'sad' because they did not believe in Him – stream of living water were not flowing out of their unbelieving hearts! (Jn 7:38)

Do not let 'sadness' in your spirit lead to inactivity in seeking the Lord

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?"

Nb Cleopas-name abbreviated from 'the glory of the Father'- the man to whom the glory of Father and Son Jesus was about to be revealed? (Jn17:5)

Are you the only visitor....? Jesus' crucifixion was a major event. The population of Jerusalem swole from c 30,000 to c 1 m at Passover – are you the only person who hasn't heard?

19 And he said to them, "What things?"

JESUS asks questions – He encourages us to rehearse the facts about Him

19b 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

I.e. "a man who was a prophet" = the man who was 'simply a prophet –

Nb it was the chief priests & the rulers who were responsible for crucifying Jesus 'delivered Him up'

21 But we had hoped that He was the one to redeem Israel.

Nb Redeeming Israel was a political expectation – it meant ousting the Roman's reclaiming the glories of the old Jewish nation

Cf Jesus actual mission - redeemed His people - by 'His blood' that is by His death

21b Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.

Nb the third day since it happened – means he must have been aware of Jesus' prophecies about rising from the dead on the third day (cf 18:31) but simply made no sense of it. Didn't believe it

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."

Nb 'some of those' included, the gospels tell us, the apostles Peter and John.

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?"

Nb Foolish one = unbelieving ones

We need to recognise the necessity of Jesus' death on the cross

27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, He interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself

Nb All the Scriptures – i.e. from (Gen 3:15 to Malachi 3:1) start of finish of OT - Jesus says the Scriptures speak of Himself

*Look for Jesus in **all** the Scriptures - including the part of the Bible written before Jesus came*

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.

Nb 'Toward evening'?? = after 5pm, dark at 6?. Jesus is not 'play' acting, but genuine – He made to continue...."

Be sure to urge Jesus strongly, to stay with you – hold on to Him

30 When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them.

Nb the normal start of the meal, but He was reminding them of last supper when 'He took bread and when He had given thanks, broke it, and gave it to them saying, This is my body, which is given for you (22:19)

31 And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And He vanished from their sight.

*JESUS opens our eyes when we consider Him / His sacrifice for us**

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?"

Expect your 'heart to burn' as you hear Jesus, the Word of God, in the Word of God

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!"

Nb c 7 miles in the dark back to Jerusalem

'The Lord has risen – He has appeared to Simon – i.e. the witness

-(when we are not told by Luke)

Now is the time for us to share the message, The Lord has risen, indeed

35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Nb told of 'Christ in all the Scriptures' preparing for / explaining 'His death for us'

Tell the facts – Jesus is found in all the Scriptures telling of His sacrifice for our sins

Conclusion

1] Read all the Scriptures looking for Jesus

2] Let your hearts burn as you see Jesus' sacrifice for you