

God Opens the Eyes of  
the Spiritually Blind

Luke 24:1-35

Presented by Bob DeWaay  
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
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Women come looking for a body

■ **Luke 24:1-3**

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

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They lack understanding

■ **Luke 24:4, 5**

And it happened that while they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling apparel; and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead"?

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Jesus' authoritative words are brought to their remembrance

■ **Luke 24:6 - 8**

"He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again." And they remembered His words,

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The woman are faithful witnesses

■ **Luke 24:9, 10**

and returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. Now they were Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James; also the other women with them were telling these things to the apostles.

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The disciples take the testimony of the women to be "chatter"

■ **Luke 24:11, 12**

And these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them. But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings only; and he went away to his home, marveling at that which had happened.

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### Inverted Parallelism in Road to Emmaus Narrative

The Journey from Jerusalem (Luke 24:13-14)  
 Appearance, "Obstructed Eyes," No Recognition (v 15-16)  
 Interaction (vv 17-18)  
     Summary of "the things" (vv 19-21)  
     Empty Tomb and Vision (vv 22-23a)  
     Jesus is Alive (v 23b)  
     Empty Tomb, but No Vision (v 24)  
     Interpretation of "the things" (vv 25-27)  
     Interaction (vv 28-30)  
 "Opened Eyes," Recognition and Disappearance (vv 31-32)  
 The Journey to Jerusalem (vv 33-35)

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
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### The Road to Emmaus

■ **Luke 24:13, 14**

And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. And they were conversing with each other about all these things which had taken place.

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
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### Their Spiritual Eyes are Blinded

■ **Luke 24:15, 16**

And it came about that while they were conversing and discussing, Jesus Himself approached, and began traveling with them. But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him.

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Ironically he thinks Jesus is in the dark!

■ **Luke 24:17, 18**

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. 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?"

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Jesus is God's Mighty Prophet

■ **Luke 24:19, 20**

And He said to them, "What things?" 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, and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him up to the sentence of death, and crucified Him."

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They knew He predicted His own resurrection from the dead

■ **Luke 24:21**

"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."

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### Not "seeing" is the problem

#### ■ Luke 24:22 - 24

"But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels, who said that He was alive. 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."

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### Unbelief is a spiritual problem

#### ■ Luke 24:25, 26

And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"

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### Unbelief is a spiritual problem that is attacked by the teaching of Scripture

#### ■ Luke 24:27

And beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

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They unwittingly offer hospitality to Christ

■ **Luke 24:28, 29**

And they approached the village where they were going, and He acted as though He were going farther. But they urged Him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is getting toward evening, and the day is now nearly over." So He went in to stay with them.

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Their eyes are opened to see Christ

■ **Luke 24:30, 31**

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. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight.

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Jesus first "opened" the Scriptures,  
then their eyes!

■ **Luke 24:32** (NKJV)

And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

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The eleven: "The Lord has risen indeed"

■ **Luke 24:33, 34** (NKJV)

So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"

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The two are now witnesses

■ **Luke 24:35**

They began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.

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## Applications and Implications

- 1) We proclaim the Scriptures, God opens minds
- 2) We must go from knowledge of facts to saving faith

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1) We proclaim the Scriptures, God opens minds

■ **Luke 24:27, 31**

And beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures. . . .  
 . . . And their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight.

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1) We proclaim the Scriptures, God opens minds

■ **Luke 24:44, 45**

Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

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1) We proclaim the Scriptures, God opens minds

■ **Acts 16:14**

A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.

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1) We proclaim the Scriptures, God opens minds

■ **2Corinthians 3:14 - 16**

But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ. But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart; but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

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1) We proclaim the Scriptures, God opens minds

■ **2Corinthians 4:1 - 3**

Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart, but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

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2) We must go from knowledge of facts to saving faith

- *Notitia* – Knowledge of facts (where we get our word “notice”)
- *Assensus* – Assent, Giving approval of facts and their significance
- *Fiducia* – Trust, Putting full trust in the object of faith.

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## 2) From facts to saving faith

What Is Your Response?

- To repent; trust and believe
- To harden your hearts like the Jewish leadership and the Roman soldiers

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