

Jesus and the Scriptures

Luke 24.44–53

Don Ruhl • Savage Street, Grants Pass, Oregon • March 5, In the year of our Lord Christ, 2023

Scripture Reader and Reading: Jackson Meyer – Luke 24.32

Song Leader and Song Suggestions: Phil Joseph – Songs on the word of God

Persuasion:

I. Luke 24.44 • All Things Must Be Fulfilled

44 Then He said to them, “These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.”

A. Jesus reminded them of what he had taught them all along.

1. We as humans are amazing in so many ways, but
2. one of our deficiencies is
 - a) that we do not have perfect memories.
 - b) We have to hear things over and over again.
 - (1) Sometimes that is because of our stubbornness.
 - (2) At other times, it is just because we lack the ability to
 - (a) hear something one time and
 - (b) then remember it forever.
 - i) We can do that with some things, but
 - ii) other times we fail to do it,
 - (1) usually because at the time
 - (2) we do not understand how important it is.

B. There are some things

1. that are so momentous,
2. we should be able to remember them,
 - a) even if we only hear them or experience them once.
 - b) Hearing the word of God is one of those things.

- (1) Nevertheless, we still need constant reminders, and
- (2) the Lord accommodates us, as he did the apostles here.

C. What did Jesus teach that he wanted the apostles to remember?

1. All things written in
 - a) the Law,
 - b) the Prophets, and
 - c) the Psalms
 - (1) about Jesus
 - (2) had to be fulfilled.
2. Some preachers claim that Jesus is on every page of the entire Bible.

D. He also reminded them

1. that what they had witnessed in the past 3 ½ years,
2. especially the things dealing with his crucifixion and resurrection,
 - a) had been revealed in the Hebrew Scriptures.
 - b) He let them know
 - (1) that the Bible was about him.
 - (2) As you may have heard before:
 - (a) The Old Testament announced that someone was coming,
 - (b) The Gospels announce that he came, and
 - (c) The Epistles announce that he is coming again.
3. As Paul said to the Romans:

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

– Romans 10.4

4. And again, we find in Revelation:

10 “...the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

– Revelation 19.10

II. Luke 24.45 • The Need to Comprehend the Scriptures

45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

A. I think this is what we all seek.

1. The Bible has a lot of information in it, and
 - a) it comes to us in many different forms,
 - b) stories
 - c) laws,
 - d) expositions,
 - e) poems, et al.
2. Some of it
 - a) people obeyed then and
 - b) other parts we obey now.
3. It has all these various Books, yet,
 - a) we know that they are all connected.
 - b) However, we struggle
 - (1) to see the connections,
 - (2) to understand difficult parts, etc.

B. No one wants us to understand the Scriptures more than the Lord Jesus.

1. Learn to see him throughout Scripture.
2. Seek his help.
3. Listen to what he says in the Gospel Accounts.

III. Luke 24.46–49 • What Was Necessary

46 Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

A. The Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms said it was necessary:

1. For the Christ to suffer
2. For the Christ to rise from the dead the third day
3. That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name to all nations
4. That the preaching would begin in Jerusalem

B. Since they had witnessed the fulfillment of prophecy,

1. it would now be their responsibility
2. to tell the world about it.
 - a) However, they would need power from the Father,
 - b) who would send them the Holy Spirit,
 - (1) giving them inspiration,
 - (2) helping them to remember perfectly what Jesus taught.

C. Destruction is coming and

1. the only way to be saved from it
2. is through Jesus the Christ.
 - a) How could they carry such a huge responsibility?
 - b) They were to take the message to the entire world.
 - (1) This is why in verse 49
 - (2) he promised that they would receive power,

- (a) power to carry out his wishes.
- (b) That is what the Book of Acts is,
 - i) Luke showing us
 - ii) how the apostles received power and what they did.

IV. Luke 24.50–51 • Jesus Blessed the Apostles

50 And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. 51 Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.

- A. They desperately needed his blessing and
 - 1. he gave it to them freely.
 - 2. He asked heaven to bless them.
 - a) Therefore, they would not fail in their mission,
 - b) nor shall we,
 - (1) if we follow his teaching,
 - (2) as they did.
- B. He went to Bethany instead of a crowded place like Jerusalem and
 - 1. having blessed them,
 - 2. he was carried into heaven.
 - a) Daniel 7 shows the ascension of Jesus
 - b) from the perspective of heaven!
 - 13 “I was watching in the night visions,
And behold, One like the Son of Man,
Coming with the clouds of heaven!
He came to the Ancient of Days,
And they brought Him near before Him.
Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,
That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion,
Which shall not pass away,**

**And His kingdom the one
Which shall not be destroyed.”**

– Daniel 7.13–14

V. Luke 24.52–53 • They Worshiped Jesus

52 And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, 53 and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

A. They worshiped Jesus, because

1. they finally saw without any doubt,
2. that he was divine,
 - a) hence worthy of worship!
 - b) Let us also worship him because
 - (1) of what Luke has shown us.
 - (2) Are you fully persuaded
 - (a) that Jesus is the Son of God?
 - (b)

B. They waited in Jerusalem as he instructed, but

1. they waited with joy.
2. Compare that to their earlier sadness.
3. Also compare it to their previous unbelief.

C. They went to a place of worship and

1. praised and blessed him without ceasing
2. until they received the power and then
 - a) they dispersed throughout the world.
 - b) Today, we have their faith because
 - (1) they did what Jesus said to do.

(2) May we carry on their mission.

Exhortation:

I. Luke ended his treatise on the ministry of Jesus Christ with “Amen.”

- A. Amen means,
 - 1. “So be it.”
 - 2. “May it come to pass.”
 - 3. It shows that you agree.
- B. Do you agree with what Luke has written?
 - 1. Not only say, “Amen,” verbally, but
 - 2. affirm it with your life.

II. The final act of Jesus on the earth

- A. was to bless his disciples and
- B. their first act toward him
 - 1. was to worship him and
 - 2. to praise and bless God.
 - a) When you see the blessings of God as revealed in the Scriptures,
 - b) you will want to worship the Lord and
 - (1) you will want
 - (2) to praise and to bless him endlessly.

III. If you recall,

- A. how or where did Luke begin his Gospel Account?
- B. It was at the temple,
 - 1. as Zacharias,
 - a) the future father of John the Baptist,
 - 2. was burning incense.

IV. How does the Gospel According to Luke end?

- A. We are at the temple,
- B. watching the eleven worship and praise God.

V. In the beginning,

- A. we found a priest doing his duty, but
- B. not believing a message from an angel.

VI. In the end,

- A. we find the apostles
- B. full of belief.

VII. Where are you on your spiritual journey?

- A. Do you have doubts?
- B. Do you have faith?