

"A Man in Heaven"

Luke 24.36-53

1. Risen in the Flesh

- a. *Peace* vs. 36,37 1.77-79 2.14 John 14.27
Isaiah 27.4-6 Psalm 130.4-6
- b. *Pierced* vs. 38-40 9.22,44,45 Isaiah 53.5
- c. *Proof* vs. 41-43 Acts 10.39-43 Genesis 18.8

2. Revealed by Word and Spirit

a. *Understood*

- 1. *Inspiration* v. 44 John 5.39 1 Peter 1.10-13
- 2. *Illumination* vs. 45,46 John 6.63 1 Corinth 2.10-16

b. *Experienced* vs. 48,49 Acts 6.7, 12.24

c. *Proclaimed* vs. 47,49 1 Timothy 3.16

3. Raised to Heaven vs. 50-53

a. *Joyful Conclusion* Acts 1.1-9 Hebrews 9.24 1 Peter 3.22

b. *Blessed Continuation* Acts 1.11 Hebrews 7.25 1 John 2.1,2

"A Man in Heaven"
Luke 24.36-53

END OF LUKE'S GOSPEL (not end of series)

PURPOSE OF LUKE'S GOSPEL

Luke 1:1-4 Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us...handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses...so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

JESUS CHRIST - CAME IN HISTORY - REVEALED IN SCRIPTURE

UCC magazine "Knowledge of the historical Jesus is not essential. Being a Christian does not consist primarily of having correct beliefs about the historical Jesus, but consists of having a relationship with the living Christ."

Marcus Borg "Jesus: A New Vision"

NOT THE MESSAGE OF THE APOSTLES

Not ambiguous relationship with an unknown Christ

SADNESS OF APOSTLE PAUL TO CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 11:4 For if someone comes to you and preaches a Jesus other than the Jesus we preached...you put up with it easily enough.

Hawaii Tribune-Herald, Friday, May 29, 1992 quotes

AHMED OSMAN, Egyptian author of "The House of the Messiah".

"There is not a shred of historical evidence that Jesus lived at the time he is supposed to have done and I believe the writers of the Gospels adapted a historical figure (like Egypt's King Tut) into their own time."

CONVINCED OF ABSOLUTE HISTORICAL REALITY - 6 MONTHS OF SERMONS

More proof about Jesus Christ - from Napoleon Bonaparte

1 Corinthians 15:14,17 if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith....And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.

CLEAR LINK - CROSS (v. 46) and FORGIVENESS (v. 47)

NEW UNDERSTANDING v. 52 "they worshipped Him"

FIRST FORMAL ACT OF ADORATION OF JESUS BY DISCIPLES
BEYOND DOUBT - JESUS IS THE CHRIST / MESSIAH and GOD

1. Risen in the Flesh

INCARNATION WAS A PERMANENT STATE - glorified, risen BODY
BECAME A MAN FOR EVER - A MAN IN HEAVEN

a. Peace vs. 36,37 While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost.

"frightened" THOUGHT OF REVENGE or GETTING EVEN // *Joseph's brothers*
11 Men who 3 days earlier had LEFT HIM TO DIE

Jesus brings -
SHALOM - COMPREHENSIVE PEACE WITH GOD AND MAN

He is more willing to forgive than we are to be forgiven.

ZECHARIAH (father of John the Baptist) ON WORK OF MESSIAH -
Luke 1.77-79 to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins...to guide our feet into the path of peace."

ANGELS SANG AT HIS BIRTH

Luke 2.14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

Luke 24:44 "This is what I told you while I was still with you:
NEW RELATIONSHIP - RISEN LORD - NEW ERA IN HISTORY OF REDEMPTION

Why Mary could no longer hold on to Him in the Garden

John 14.27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives.

IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE OUR PEACE, JESUS NEEDED TO BE -

b. Pierced vs. 38-40 He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

SAW THE STIGMATA - WOUNDS FROM THE CROSS

HE TOLD THEM MANY TIMES

Luke 9.22 "The Son of Man must suffer many things...and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."

Isaiah 53:5 he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him

Ephesians 2:13-15 the blood of Christ. For he himself is our peace

c. Proof vs. 41-43 And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

"disbelieved for joy" TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE

COULD HAVE RIGHTLY COMMANDED THEM TO BELIEVE OR SCOLDED THEM FOR THEIR UNBELIEF

TREMENDOUS GRACE / HUMILITY - Eats with them - FELLOWSHIP

GREAT LESSON OF PATIENCE WITH PEOPLE - CONVINCING PROOF

HARD TO UNDERSTAND -

Risen Lord not bound by Human Limitations - through locked doors Still in human form - ate fish

GOOD NEWS FOR HAWAIIANS - EAT FISH IN HEAVEN - BROILED NOT RAW

WORDS OF PETER TO CORNELIUS

Acts 10.39-43 "We are witnesses of everything he did...they killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen...by witnesses whom God had already chosen--by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

// ABRAHAM ENTERTAINED THE LIVING GOD - TREES OF MAMRE

Genesis 18:8 He then brought some curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared, and set these before them. While they ate, he stood near them under a tree.

JESUS TEACHES THAT WE SHOULD USE OUR SENSES TO CONFIRM TRUTH LOGIC OF THE GOSPEL - GOES BEYOND CATEGORIES OF HUMAN THOUGHT

CONTRA -

Roman Catholic doctrine of Transubstantiation

Bread and Wine ACTUALLY BECOME Body and Blood of Christ

"But it looks and tastes like bread and wine??"

ACCIDENT OF APPEARANCE?? - NO ACCIDENT - NO CHANGE

Jesus never requires us to believe something contrary to senses

2. Revealed by Word and Spirit

RELATION BETWEEN THE SPIRIT AND THE WORD

Want to be lead by the Spirit?? READ THE BIBLE
Want to understand the Bible?? BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

Message of God must be -

a. Understood BEGINNING OF THE RELATIONSHIP

1. Inspiration v. 44 He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

JESUS IS THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS

"Jesus is the key to understanding Scripture,
Scripture is the key to understanding Jesus"

LAW OF MOSES, PROPHETS, PSALMS - 3 Divisions of Hebrew Bible
THERE IS NO PART OF SCRIPTURE THAT DOES NOT SPEAK OF JESUS

John 5.39 You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me

1 Peter 1.10-13 OT prophets...the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

JESUS IS THE MESSAGE AND THE MESSENGER OF SCRIPTURE

2. Illumination vs. 45,46 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day

Inspiration - WRITING - God breathed Words - God's Own Word

Illumination - UNDERSTANDING - THE AUTHOR'S OWN EXPLANATION

DISCIPLES ON EMMAUS ROAD

Luke 24:32 "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?"

D.L. Moody "The Bible without the Holy Spirit
is a sundial by moonlight"

John 6.63

The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

LIVING WORDS - NOT LIFELESS / MEANINGLESS WORDS

1 Corinthians 2:10-16 The Spirit searches all things, even the deep thoughts of God...no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have ...received the Spirit who is from God, so that we understand what God has freely given us... we have the mind of Christ.

MARK OF CHRISTIAN MATURITY - NOT ENOUGH TO READ JUST DAILY BREAD

WE MUST UNDERSTAND THE MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL

CONTRARY - BELIEVE WHAT EVER YOU WANT AS LONG AS YOU ARE SINCERE

ONE TRUE, HISTORICAL JESUS - ENTERED TIME AND SPACE -
LIVED, DIED, ROSE, COMING AGAIN

INTELLECTUAL COMPREHENSION IS NOT ENOUGH *Message of God must be*

b. Experienced vs. 48,49 You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

2 Texans on Vacation - TO NIAGARA FALLS

Drove along Lake Erie- Awe & admiration size & power Niagara River
Approached falls - Come I will show you the greatest unused power in the world

NO GREATEST UNUSED POWER IS THE HOLY SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD

J.C. Ryle "He that desires to be a Christian, must be experimentally acquainted with repentance and forgiveness of sins. These are the principal things in saving religion. To belong to a pure church, and hear the gospel, and receive the sacraments are great privileges. But are we converted? Are we justified? If not, we are dead before God."

Message of God must be

c. Proclaimed vs. 47 repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

(6)

J.C. Ryle - this shows that "none are too wicked for salvation to be offered to them, and no degree of spiritual disease is beyond the gospel remedy. Jerusalem was the most wicked city on earth at that time. It was a city that stoned the prophets and killed those God sent to call them to repentance. It was a city full of pride, unbelief, self righteousness, and desperate hardness of heart. It was a city which had just crowned all of its transgressions by crucifying the Lord of glory. And yet Jerusalem was the first place where the proclamation of repentance and forgiveness was made."

Acts 1:8 you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

MISSION - according to St. Augustine:

"A whole Christ for my salvation, a whole Bible for my staff, a whole church for my fellowship, and a whole world for my parish."

WE HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF CARRYING ON CHRIST'S GLORIOUS MISSION

"TO ALL NATIONS"

3. Raised to Heaven

vs. 50-53 When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

LUKE BEGINS AND ENDS GOSPEL IN TEMPLE

BRIEF ACCOUNT - END OF POPYRUS SCROLL - MORE IN ACTS

RUSSIAN COSMONAUT IN SPACE "I don't see God out here!"

10 YEAR OLD - PET SHOP - DOG GROOMING - DOG WHISTLE
ANOTHER REALM BEYOND OUR SENSES

STEPHEN THE DEACON - MARTYRED

Acts 7:56 "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

WHERE? WAY OFF IN OUTER SPACE?? VERY NEAR HIM!!

ASCENSION MEANT -

a. Joyful Conclusion EARTHLY MINISTRY COMPLETED

JOY - SALVATION WAS ACCOMPLISHED - DEATH OF A VICTOR - RISEN

Acts 1.1-9 In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven...After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God...After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Hebrews 9:24 For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence.

1 Peter 3:21,22 Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

b. Blessed Continuation HEAVENLY MINISTRY BEGUN

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven.

BLESSING CONTINUES FROM HEAVEN

ANGELS TO DISCIPLES AT ASCENSION -

Acts 1.11 "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Hebrews 4:14-16 we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God...we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

SOME PRAY TO MARY TO GET GOD'S CONCERN
 HOW MUCH MORE CONCERN THAN HAVING ONE OF US IN HEAVEN
 Jesus is God and man / Has Mary become God??
 RC Priest - God hears and tells Mary who then tells God
 IT IS WHO YOU KNOW THAT COUNTS

Hebrews 7:25 he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.

1 John 2.1,2 if anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.