

What Was the Message of Jesus After His Resurrection?

Matthew 28:9–10: *9 And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, Do not be afraid; go and take word to my brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see me.*



When we think about it, the greatest events in the Bible are the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. By Jesus becoming a man and being faithful to the ministry that God had given him, he paved the way for the redemption of all humanity. By voluntarily giving up his human life and submitting to crucifixion, he literally paid the price for that redemption. By being raised from the dead by God, Jesus sealed the destiny of the future resurrection of all humanity and opened the door for God's kingdom to come on earth! This points to Jesus' resurrection as the most awe-inspiring marker in God's eternal plan. Now, the question is, what did Jesus tell us about this event? What did our resurrected Lord build as a foundation for God's plan to continue developing?

Throughout this episode, we will look at Jesus' Resurrection Day messages on that Sunday.

We first visit the empty tomb that Sunday morning:

Mark 16:1–5: *1 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint him. 2 Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. 3 They were saying to one another, Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb? 4 Looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was extremely large. 5 Entering the tomb, they saw a young man (an angel) sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed.*

It would have been amazing just to see an angel, but now the angel addresses them directly:

Matthew 28:5–7: *5 The angel said to the women, Do not be afraid <5399> (KJV says fear not); for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where he was lying. 7 Go quickly <5035>...*

Mark 16:7: *...tell his disciples and Peter, he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.*

Afraid: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #5399 *phobeo*; to frighten, i.e. (passively) to be alarmed; by analogy, to be in awe of, i.e. revere

Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon: 1) to put to flight by terrifying (to scare away) 1b1) to be struck with fear, to be seized with alarm

Quickly: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #5035 *tachu*; shortly, i.e. with delay

The message was, *go quickly and tell the disciples and Peter. Do not be afraid (overly alarmed, or out of sorts).*

Why did the angel begin with *fear not*?

Fear not! What is about to be proclaimed—what is happening right now—is from God, and it is for you. Have faith, have courage and have peace, for you are protected and loved in all these things!

These women would divide and conquer as the angel had instructed. Mary Magdalene sought out Peter, while the other women were to seek out the other disciples.

We suggest Mary Magdalene responded with immediacy and left first. Therefore, she was not present for Jesus' appearance to the other women:

John 20:2: *So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.*

🔍 **Why didn't Mary tell Peter what the angel told her to say? Why the disconnect?** 



The angel told Mary to *run and tell his (Jesus') disciples and Peter that Jesus had risen, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there, you will see him, just as he told you.* But she didn't tell Peter that. We think Mary was so focused on going to the tomb to take care of the body of her beloved Lord that she panicked when the body wasn't there. She couldn't see beyond the panic—*Where is his body—what's happening here? We need to honor and reverence his body!* Even though the angel told her what took place, her confusion and alarm was overwhelming. It prevented her from remembering and understanding the message.

With Mary Magdalene off to tell Peter, Jesus would first appear to the other women. Here is where his resurrection message begins:

Matthew 28:9-10: *9 And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, Do not be **afraid** <5399> (fear not); go and take word to my brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see me.*

This was dramatic! First, let's think about the angel saying *fear not* and putting the women at ease as best as he could. Both Jesus and the angel responded with empathy and kindness to the overwhelming emotion of these women from the traumatic crucifixion experience.

LET'S LOOK AT THE BEGINNING OF JESUS' RESURRECTION MESSAGES:



FEAR NOT! Just as the angel said to the women inside the tomb, Jesus repeated these calming words of great encouragement: **FEAR NOT!** What is about to be proclaimed or what is happening right now is from God, and it is for you.

Fear not here meant for them to take a breath, observe and reset.

Next, think about Jesus' command to *take word* of his resurrection to his *brethren*. Jesus had never directly called his disciples his *brethren* before this.

The night before his crucifixion, he had addressed them as friends:

John 15:13–15: *13 Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 No longer do I call you slaves, for the slave does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you.*

Let's walk through this elevation of status:

- As Jews, the disciples were *servants* of God before Jesus was on the scene.
- It was huge to go from that relationship to becoming *disciples* of Messiah, the son of God.
- Next, being called *friends* is heartfelt and very special.
- But then, to be called *brethren*, we are talking about family—brothers and sisters of Jesus and children of God Almighty.

We saw this friendship as he urged Peter, James and John to watch with him that night in the Garden of Gethsemane. That's what we do with our friends. But now, it's *brethren*. This is a significant elevation.

(Source: Adam Clarke's Commentary on the Bible) *Go, tell my brethren* - This is the first time our Lord called his disciples by this endearing name: they no doubt thought that their Lord would reproach them with their past cowardice and infidelity; but, in speaking thus, he gives them a full assurance, in the most tender terms, that all that was passed was as buried forever.



BECAUSE I AM RISEN,
your world has changed. I now see you as my brethren, whereas before, you were my disciples.

Next, let's look at the responsibility these women were given to pass on to the other disciples this privilege of fellowship.

The message:


Matthew 28:10: *...take word to my brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see me.*

The choice of Galilee was important because it was their home. They would be better able to process these new, miraculous and unfamiliar events in familiar surroundings.

Remember, it was in Galilee where Jesus had warned them of all these events:
Matthew 17:22–23: *22 And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men; 23 and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day. And they were deeply grieved.*

We see another “disconnect” that took place before Jesus’ crucifixion:

Q. The disciples were told several times by Jesus that he would die and be raised. Why didn’t they get it? 

 Jesus told them three different times he would die and be raised on the third day. He was specific! Why didn’t they understand? Because they were in the middle of something else. When life takes a left turn, and you absolutely know you were supposed to go right, you’re now in unfamiliar territory and can’t remember everything. This is what seemed to happen to them. They were out of sorts, perplexed because they were out of the realm of familiarity.

WHAT IS WITH THIS MESSAGE NEEDING TO BE DELIVERED, AND WHAT IS JESUS’ RESURRECTION MESSAGE?



BECAUSE I AM RISEN,
I will meet you where you live, just as I originally met you where you live, to reset your faith and confidence in God’s plan.

Through his calm, straightforward words, Jesus enables his disciples to grasp what before seemed impossible to them.

There is such simplicity and wisdom in how Jesus first introduced himself to a select group of his followers on that resurrection morning!

The magnitude and privilege of being the first to see the risen Lord is amazing. What was the pattern Jesus was setting?

The pattern Jesus set with this initial message to these faithful women was simple and clear. His communication would always be thrilling, calming, inclusive and task-driven. His mission, and therefore the mission of his followers, was now taking on a whole new level. All of his Resurrection Day messages would follow this same loving pattern.

Jesus would next appear to Mary Magdalene. She had diligently run off to find the Apostle Peter to spread the word after she heard the angel’s message about Jesus being risen. Remember, she ran to get Peter and John, and they took off to the tomb. She couldn’t keep up with them and returned to the tomb a second time right after Peter and John had been there and left.

Mary peered into the tomb, and two angels spoke with her:

John 20:13-15: *13 And they said to her, Woman, why are you weeping? She said to them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him. 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?*

Woman, why are you weeping? Then she notices the man behind her. She turns and sees Jesus standing there, though she still doesn't recognize him. He discusses the two issues addressed by the angels at both of her visits to the tomb.

1. He addresses her overwhelming emotional grief.
2. He asks whom she was seeking, which is the core issue in her mind—*where is the body of Jesus? I need to find him.*

Mary's response was focused on her mission of finding and caring for the body of her Lord. What beautiful reverence, discipline and devotion she shows us here:

John 20:15: *...Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.*

 **Did Mary have the strength on her own to carry a body?**



She probably didn't even think it through! It likely didn't matter to her. She was going to find a way because that was the only thing important to her.

This is a powerful lesson for us. Mary's heart was full of grief, yet it was exactly in the right place. Jesus recognized and responded to her grief, but she was not yet able to process the reality of him standing before her. She literally couldn't see what (who!) was right in front of her.

Jesus was about to dissolve her grief and replace it with incomprehensible joy and clarity:

John 20:16: *Jesus said to her, Mary! She turned and said to him in Hebrew, Rabboni! (which means, Teacher).*

Jesus spoke one word, and all that weighed her down was immediately lifted! She, in turn, spoke one word that signified her embrace of the powerful reality standing right before her—*Rabboni!*

Rabboni is a very reverential description of a teacher. What Jesus was saying suddenly made sense to her! Her grief and sorrow melted away. She had been shown what she was looking for, and it was bigger and better than she could have possibly imagined.

LET'S LOOK AT JESUS' RESURRECTION MESSAGE HERE TO MARY:



Mary was not able to see the circumstances as evidence of Jesus' resurrection as she was blinded by her deep grief and loss and blinded by her mission. With ONE WORD Jesus changed that loss into love, joy and reverence. All Mary had to do was listen!

Let us realize how easily our emotions and perceptions can blind our eyes from seeing the magnitude of God's blessing that may be standing right before us!

We can put ourselves into Mary's place of being preoccupied with her goal. *Please tell me where his body has been taken. I will get it. I have to finish this last service to him.* He looks at her, and we can imagine there is that smile when he says, *Mary.*

He was right there. And he was alive, just like the angel had said.

Now that she recognizes Jesus, he presents her with a very different mission than what she initially had come to the tomb to do:

John 20:17: *Jesus said to her, Stop clinging to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brethren and say to them, I ascend to my Father and your Father, and my God and your God.*

There are several powerful messages here:

- ☐ *Stop clinging to me*—Don't hold on to me now! Jesus was teaching her the urgency of the mission outweighed the emotions of the moment.
- ☐ *I have not yet ascended to the Father*—Jesus' message here was extraordinary. There was no time to lose, as he was preparing his followers to embrace his coming heavenly reward. Things were going to change significantly, and there was a time limit.
- ☐ *Go to my brethren*—Again, he highlights the importance of recognizing his disciples as his brethren. This reinforces that Jesus' resurrection was the first step to introducing a new age.
- ☐ *Say to them, I ascend to my Father and your Father, and my God and your God*—These descriptions enhance and explain what Jesus meant by *brethren*. We have the same Father as Jesus, and that Father is the all-powerful God. This is a relationship transformation.

Remember, the night before his crucifixion, Jesus spoke about "his" Father:

John 14:2-3: *2 In my Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 3 If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to myself, that where I am, there you may be also.*

But in speaking to Mary, Jesus refers to *my brethren*. Now it is not just HIS *Father's house*; it will be THEIR *Father's house* after his resurrection.

The magnitude of his announcing his coming ascension *to my Father AND your Father* cannot be overstated! Jesus laid the groundwork for this earlier in his ministry when the disciples said, *Lord, teach us to pray*. And what were the first two words of that prayer? Our Father...

While they hadn't understood it when he taught them, it was now becoming more apparent. This was the power of Jesus' resurrection.



It is profoundly clear Jesus trusted Mary with these important aspects of his resurrection message.

He spoke when she could not grasp her surroundings so she could understand. He gave her a mission to find his brethren to instruct and enlighten them.



Am I watching and listening for Jesus' direction? Do I enthusiastically relay what I have been given to encourage our brotherhood?

The job she originally went to the tomb to do was replaced by a new direction from Jesus.



- What is my mission in Christ?
- Am I willing to walk where God wants me to go?
- Am I willing to say what He wants me to say?
- Am I willing to do what He wants me to do?
- Am I willing to back away from what He wants me to back away from?
- When my understanding of my mission changes, am I willing to change my mind? Am I focused on His direction in my life?

Those are powerful questions that help us relate to Mary's transformation in a moment when she was shown what she now had to do. She dropped everything from before and ran toward the next mission Jesus himself had given to her.

The sensitivity Jesus displayed with Mary is overwhelming! We can just feel the love and compassion that was pouring out of him.

With the magnificence and excitement of Jesus appearing these two times, we would think that everyone else would be overjoyed with this news! Were they?

Let's think about this: There were eleven apostles and many followers who had been scattered after the crucifixion, yet Jesus saw fit to reveal himself to this small group of women. On the surface, this might not make sense until we realize that Jesus always reveals himself to those who actively seek him out with great reverence and humility.

 **Where were the apostles?**




They were hiding. Jesus was dead, and the experience was so overwhelming they did not know what was going to happen. They thought the authorities were probably going to hunt them down.

How were these remarkable messages of these women received?

Luke 24:10–11: *10 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. 11 But these words appeared to them as **nonsense** <3026>, and they would not believe them.*

Nonsense: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #3026 *leros*; apparently a primary word; twaddle, i.e. an incredible story:—idle tale

 **Why didn't they believe the women and the angel's message?**

What was their disconnect?



First, they are hiding. Second, they have been utterly traumatized. They were following Jesus and all of a sudden, late at night, Judas shows up with a mob and Temple soldiers who take Jesus prisoner—for what? No reason given.

Throughout the night, Jesus went through many trials; he was whipped and questioned, and then he was on trial before Pilate. Before they knew it, he was hanging on the cross, writhing in pain for six hours, then he died and was buried. They were in shock—*what just happened?*

We need to take into account that their human reaction made them unable to make sense of these traumatic events.

Jesus would not miss a moment, as he already knew his disciples would be doubtful. Two verses later in Luke, Jesus will address this issue himself. What a beautiful introduction to seeing the risen Lord in an entirely different way.

Let's join two disciples and Jesus on the road to Emmaus. This all took place on the same day:

Luke 24:13–15: *13 And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 And they were talking with each other about all these things which had taken place. 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself approached and began traveling with them.*

These two disciples were about their business, trying to work through their trauma. They were walking the seven miles to Emmaus, and this “stranger” (Jesus) joined them on the road. They were engaged in this fervent discussion, passionately trying to figure out what happened. *What did you hear... This is what I heard... I don't understand... What are we going to do... How do we process this?*

While engaged in fervent fellowship to comprehend their circumstances, Jesus appeared to show them exactly what they were seeking!

Luke 24:16: *But their eyes were prevented <2902> from recognizing him.*

The word *prevented* here means they were held back from recognizing Jesus.

Prevented/Holden: Strong's Exhaustive Concordance #2902 *krateo*; to use strength, i.e. seize or retain (literally or figuratively)

The King James Version translates this word as “hold” 12 times, “take” 9 times, “lay hold on” 8 times, “hold fast” 5 times, “take by” 4 times, “lay hold upon” 2 times, “lay hand on” 2 times, miscellaneous ways 5 times

They don't see him as Jesus; they see him as a stranger. This becomes the setting for showing them the Messiah, the risen Lord, in an entirely different way than they would have been able to comprehend if they had recognized him right away.

Jesus is obviously responsible for keeping their eyes from recognizing him:

Luke 24:17: *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.*

Jesus asked what they were talking about, and they stopped to talk with this “stranger” with great sadness. Jesus knew their state of mind. Imagine the joy in his heart at appearing to these faithful followers and preparing to slowly and systematically reveal all he had promised them before his crucifixion!

Jesus' question opens the door:

Luke 24:18: *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?*

(Source: Adam Clarke's Commentary on the Bible) ... Cleopas (Clopas) The same as Alpheus, father of the Apostle James (Mark 3:18) and husband of the sister of the virgin (John 19:25).

Let's take a detour for a moment to see Cleopas' connection to Jesus' disciples:

John 19:25: *Therefore the soldiers did these things. But standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.*

Think of all Cleopas would have known about the crucifixion since his wife was at the cross! He exclaims to Jesus, *Are you the only one who doesn't know what is going on?* Everyone knew about it. There was no “social media” at that time, but there was “personal media.”

Cleopas' response to Jesus showed the social and political magnitude of the crucifixion. Jesus provokes it further:

Luke 24:19: *And he (Jesus) 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.*

By asking *what things?* Jesus opened the door to listen. By so doing, he had given these two disciples the privilege of being heard and expressing what was in their hearts.

This is an important principle. He gave them the opportunity to tell their story, but in telling their story, they were not only describing it to the person listening, but they were saying it out loud and hearing themselves say it. Both of these things were very important, and that is what Jesus was drawing out of them.

This would be a powerful basis for Jesus to expand their hearts and minds to a new level. So, Jesus asked, *What things?*

Their answer began with the very highest respect for Jesus. It would continue with the sad and unjust actions of those responsible for his crucifixion:

Luke 24:20: *and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to the sentence of death, and crucified him.*

They got right to the point, sadly repeating the unjust and horrible events of the last few days. *The chief priest and our rulers delivered him to the sentence of death.* They handed him over to Rome. It was a clear understanding of what had happened. They started out talking about Jesus the prophet, then related the events that led to his death sentence.

Their narrative shifted from the horror of the experience to their deep disappointment and sadness:

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.*

In other words, *We were hoping for redemption through Jesus. Everything was lined up, and it's been three days.* Why did they mention the three days? Were they clinging to what Jesus had revealed before his crucifixion as a small strand of hope?

Let's go back to one of those times Jesus mentioned three days:

Matthew 20:17-19: *17 As Jesus was about to go up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and on the way he said to them, 18 Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death, 19 and will hand him over to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify him, and on the third day he will be raised up.*

There is a lot of detail in that description, and everything Jesus said there came true. Maybe they were thinking, *He mentioned three days, and it's been three days!*

As they were talking about this, they went from the honor of Jesus to the horror of the crucifixion to their own disappointment, and they just kept going! They wanted this stranger to know everything.

Now, they even share with him the mysterious part that has them puzzled:

Luke 24:22–24: 22 *But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 and did not find his body, they came, saying that they had also 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 exactly as the women also had said; but him they did not see.*

They were relaying what the women said—sort of—at least part of what the women said. After Peter and John went to the tomb, the Scriptures describe Peter as *astonished* and John as *believing*.



A side thought: The fact that these two men on the road to Emmaus mentioned that Peter and John did not see Jesus may indicate the reason they did not report the women seeing him. Surely Jesus would have appeared to Peter and John if he had been raised! The point here is they are trying to put it all in place, and Jesus is letting them try by pulling the message out of them.

IN NOT LETTING THEM SEE HE WAS JESUS, WE HAVE MORE OF JESUS' RESURRECTION MESSAGE:



Up to this point in this conversation, all Jesus did was ask what was happening. **He then listened.** His resurrection message here was to give space for his brethren to work at putting the whole event in context so he could teach them.



When I am puzzled and disappointed in my experiences, am I willing to express my troubles? After all, Jesus is listening, whether I think about that or not.

It is again obvious that Jesus' love for these two followers is overwhelming. His listening ear would open the door for his teaching words!

How would Jesus take all that he was hearing and put it all in order?

Let's remember that by listening, Jesus had given these two disciples a powerful opportunity to see themselves in relation to the events unfolding around them. After he let them tell their whole story, he would next plainly fill in the missing details that were needed to make sense of these unusual and life-changing events. Jesus is teaching us a remarkable way to communicate.

Jesus now teaches them even though they still don't know who he is:

Luke 24:25–26: *25 And he said to them, O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into his glory?*

What a surprising start! *You foolish men, are you not in tune with the prophets of old in relation to the experiences of the Christ? Go back to your holy Scriptures. You talked about Jesus as a prophet. They should have been able to see where he fits in the plan according to prophecy.*

Luke 24:27: *Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, he explained to them the things concerning himself in all the Scriptures.*

What a teaching this must have been! These are just two small examples of what Moses and the prophets said:

1. **Deuteronomy 18:15:** *The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him.*



This prophecy shows that Jesus was chosen from the line of David.

2. **Psalms 16:8–11:** *8 I have set the LORD continually before me; because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my glory rejoices; my flesh also will dwell securely. 10 For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; nor will You allow Your holy one to undergo decay. 11 You will make known to me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; in Your right hand there are pleasures forever.*

This prophecy shows the holy one's death and resurrection with eternity to come. These are just two wonderful exercises for going through the Old Testament and pulling out all the prophecies that point to Jesus. It is staggering how many there are, and they had miles to go. Jesus must have enlightened them for quite some time.



We recommend the wonderful exercise of going through the Old Testament and identifying all the prophecies that point to Jesus.

Jesus made good use of all the time they journeyed together. He talked right up to where they got to their destination:

Luke 24:28–29: *28 And they approached the village where they were going, and he acted as though he were going farther. 29 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.*

Jesus stayed with them because they asked. This is a strong principle of the call to Christ—the call does not force us; instead, it draws us to God through Christ and helps us to want to understand.

This principle of encouraging us to ask was extended to Jesus’ disciples during his ministry:

Luke 11:9–10: *9 So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened.*

There is great blessing when we ask. We need to put ourselves forward by asking God for understanding.



The two disciples on the road to Emmaus still don’t know who Jesus is, but they don’t want him to leave because he has given them such hope, clarity, and a scriptural basis for recovering their faith. Jesus has done his work, and he has essentially done it invisibly. He looks like a stranger because by not revealing himself yet, they could focus on the prophecies. They could focus on all the things he was telling them.

Imagine if they had known it was Jesus; they wouldn’t have heard a word he said because of their joy at finding him alive again. But this way, he is building the foundation.

Jesus was bringing these two disciples to a condition of mind to accept what they could not yet see:

Luke 24:30: *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.*

His disciples were undoubtedly familiar with some unique, tender and attentive part of Jesus’ demeanor in this blessing and breaking of bread, as they had seen it before in the context of great miracles. Remember the feeding of the 4,000 and 5,000?

They recognized him by his words, demeanor, tone—or all three. Today, we call it a “light bulb moment.”



After spending hours with this “stranger,” now they can see!

Luke 24:31–32: *31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 32 They said to one another, Were not our hearts burning within us while he was speaking to us on the road, while he was explaining the Scriptures to us?*

His words were transformational. Imagine the thrill of finally recognizing that the risen Lord Jesus is sitting at the table with you! They no longer had any more confusion, no more disconnect.

Another lesson we can learn from this is that Jesus isn’t revealed when people simply see him. He’s revealed when those who are looking desire to know him and to know truth.

Remember, that’s what happened with Mary Magdalene and then again with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. He shows them because they need and want to know.

They recognized him, and now he was gone! What do we do?

Luke 24:33: *And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem...*

Their IMMEDIATE response to hearing the words of Scripture, of fitting the pieces of Jesus' crucifixion together and of actually being in the presence of the risen Lord Jesus himself was to get up and go back to Jerusalem. They would walk that seven-mile journey again because what they had just experienced CHANGED EVERYTHING! It was such a powerful moment that they cannot stay in Emmaus.

They had to go back and tell the others. It was the most amazing thing that had ever happened in their lives, and they needed to spread the word. A tremendous zeal was ignited, just like with Mary Magdalene and the other women. It was based on the foundation of scriptural truth.

They are equipped with prophecies that have been revealed, they have been taught how to apply them, and they have seen and heard Jesus in person!

Luke 24:33-35: *33 ...and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, 34 saying, The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon. 35 They began to relate their experiences on the road and how he was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.*

The Lord has really risen! Remember what the women told you? It's really true! They were right; we saw it with our own eyes. There was a pouring out of relief, excitement, enthusiasm, God's grace, thankfulness, gratitude and providence. Jesus was alive!



Jesus had been raised. His personal messages to his brethren on that remarkable day focused them on several things. They were to be no longer fearful, they no longer need to weep with grief, and they could dissolve all disbelief. They were to carry all these things forward to the brotherhood.

Jesus' message that day was that prophecy was fulfilled, and life for his followers and, eventually, for the entire world was dramatically changed! Jesus was and is Lord!

Jesus began the first day of his resurrection with the assurance to *fear not*. By the end of that day, the disciples understood that he was back and had fulfilled prophecy. We see a dramatic beginning to the 40 days after his resurrection. He would appear several other times during the rest of those days to help put things in place.

Jesus told them next where to go and what to do so they could receive the holy spirit. Then, he gave directions on how Christianity would begin. But on the day Jesus was raised, he gave us messages to show us what is important.

**So, what was the message of Jesus after his resurrection?
For Rick and Jonathan and Christian Questions...
...Think about it!**

All scriptures cited are from the NASB1995 translation unless otherwise noted.



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Bonus Material and Study Questions

Recommended additional study:

Ep.1365 : Why Did the Angel Say “Fear Not”?

Revealing the assurance of the “fear not” message in the gospel

<https://christianquestions.com/inspiration/1365-fear-not/>

Ep.1327: If Jesus’ Resurrection Saved the World, Why Is It Such a Mess?

Tracing how Jesus DID save the world without saving the world

<https://christianquestions.com/inspiration/1327-resurrected/>



Parents and Bible class teachers, continue your studies on this topic with these short, animated videos for kids at [ChristianQuestions.com/YouTube](https://christianquestions.com/YouTube):

- **How do we know Jesus died and was resurrected?**
<https://christianquestions.com/cq-videos/videos-cq-kids/jesus-died-and-was-resurrected/>
- **Why did Jesus have to die?**
<https://christianquestions.com/cq-videos/videos-cq-kids/jesus-die/>
- **What happened on the road to Emmaus?**
<https://christianquestions.com/cq-videos/videos-cq-kids/the-road-to-emmaus/>

Here is just a very small sampling of the prophecies Jesus may have reminded them of:

Genesis 3:15: *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; he shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.*

Genesis 12:1–3: *1 Now the LORD said to Abram, Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you; 2 and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great; and so you shall be a blessing; 3 and I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.*

Deuteronomy 18:15: *The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your countrymen, you shall listen to him.*

Psalms 16:8–11: *8 I have set the LORD continually before me; because He is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad and my glory rejoices; my flesh also will dwell securely. 10 For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; nor will You allow Your holy one to undergo decay. 11 You will make known to me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; in Your right hand there are pleasures forever.*

The Tragedy:

Psalms 22:1–8: *1 My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning. 2 O my God, I cry by day, but You do not answer; and by night, but I have no rest. 3 Yet You are holy, O You who are enthroned upon the praises of Israel. 4 In You our fathers trusted; they trusted and You delivered them. 5 To You they cried out and were delivered; in You they trusted and were not disappointed. 6 But I am a worm and not a man, a reproach of men and despised by the people. 7 All who see me sneer at me; they separate with the lip, they wag the head, saying, 8 Commit yourself to the LORD; let Him deliver him; let Him rescue him, because He delights in him.*

The Triumph:

Psalms 22:25–31: *25 From You comes my praise in the great assembly; I shall pay my vows before those who fear Him. 26 The afflicted will eat and be satisfied; those who seek Him will praise the LORD. Let your heart live forever! 27 All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations will worship before You. 28 For the kingdom is the LORD's and He rules over the nations. 29 All the prosperous of the earth will eat and worship, all those who go down to the dust will bow before Him, even he who cannot keep his soul alive. 30 Posterity will serve Him; it will be told of the Lord to the coming generation. 31 They will come and will declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, that He has performed it.*

Isaiah 9:6–7: *6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on his shoulders; and his name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7 There will be no end to the increase of his government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.*

The Tragedy:

Isaiah 53:3-9: *3 He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and like one from whom men hide their face he was despised, and we did not esteem him. 4 Surely our griefs he himself bore, and our sorrows he carried; yet we ourselves esteemed him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But he was pierced through for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the chastening for our well-being fell upon him, and by his scourging we are healed. 6 All of us like sheep have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; but the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all to fall on him. 7 He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; like a lamb that is led to slaughter, and like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, so he did not open his mouth. 8 By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke was due? 9 His grave was assigned with wicked men, yet he was with a rich man in his death, because he had done no violence, nor was there any deceit in his mouth.*

The Triumph:

Isaiah 53:10-12: *10 But the LORD was pleased to crush him, putting him to grief; if he would render himself as a guilt offering, he will see his offspring, he will prolong his days, and the good pleasure of the LORD will prosper in his hand. 11 As a result of the anguish of his soul, he will see it and be satisfied; by his knowledge the Righteous One, My servant, will justify the many, as he will bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore, I will allot him a portion with the great, and he will divide the booty with the strong; because he poured out himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.*

Study QUESTIONS

Ep.1381: What Was the Message of Jesus After His Resurrection?

<https://christianquestions.com/inspiration/1381-resurrection/>

See:  CQRewind
SHOW NOTES

- Empty tomb—Sunday Morning:** The two Mary's and Salome (Matthew 28:5-10, Mark 16:7, John 20:2)
 - What was the message the women were to take to the apostles and Peter?
 - Why did the angel begin with "Fear not"?
 - What did Mary Magdalene tell Peter? Why didn't she tell him what she was told by the angel?
 - Why did Jesus also say, "Do not be afraid" (fear not)?
 - What was the reason for this first resurrection message?
 - How do you "see" Jesus supporting you? How do you "listen" to the comfort Jesus can bring to you?
- Change in status:** Apostles and close followers (Matthew 28:10, John 15:13-15)
 - How did Jesus address his close followers before his crucifixion?
 - How did this change after his resurrection?
 - Explain the steps of elevation they had gone through in their relationship with Jesus.
 - Do you feel this relationship with your God, your Father? With your elder brother, Jesus?
- Galilee:** Apostles and close followers (Matthew 28:10, 17:22-23)
 - Why did Jesus choose Galilee for his first appearance to the men?
 - What was Jesus' resurrection message as he met them in Galilee?
 - How do you allow Jesus to "meet you where you live" to help restore your faith when experience shakes it?
- Second visit to the tomb:** Mary Magdalene (John 14:2-3, 20:13-16)
 - How did Mary's deep grief affect her perceptions?
 - How did Jesus change that? What did Mary have to do?
 - What was Jesus' resurrection message here to Mary? How does it apply to you?
 - Break down the parts of Mary's new mission:
How are you watching and listening for Jesus' direction? How are you looking to encourage your brethren?
How can you be willing to change if the Lord shows you He wants you on a different mission?
- On the road to Emmaus:** Cleopas and an unnamed disciple (Luke 11:9-10, 24:13-35, Matthew 20:17-19)
 - How does Jesus prompt these men to reconsider what they knew so they would be ready for him to teach?
 - When you are puzzled or disappointed, do you ask Jesus to help you find the answers?
 - What method did Jesus use to teach the two disciples about his mission here on earth?
 - Why did he stay with them for a time at Emmaus?
 - What did this resurrection message, that Jesus had fulfilled prophecy, give to the disciples?
 - What does knowing Jesus fulfilled all aspects of prophecy mean to you?