

Special Notes from September 20th, 2022

Reading from Luke 24 we note; This was after the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ, that Jesus Himself appeared to these two folks in what we refer to as the “road to Emmaus encounter”

These two folks (presumably men) were walking and talking about the crucifixion they had witnessed when by surprise, along comes this stranger (we know to be the Lord Jesus Christ) and begins a conversation with these two.

Why are you sad, this stranger asks.

Their answer, are you a stranger here, don't you know what things have just happened? The stranger responds – what things are you referring to?

Their answer – this guy Jesus of Nazareth whom the chief priests and our rulers just turned over to be condemned to death has been crucified and we thought He was going to redeem Israel. Here it is the third day and now the tomb is empty.

Now this is where it gets really interesting. The stranger responds with “you foolish ones and slow of heart, weren't these things supposed to happen? AND BEGINNING WITH MOSES AND ALL THE PROPHETS He begins to explain all of the scriptures CONCERNING HIMSELF.

How much we can actually take away from this is amazing to say the least.

In other words, everything written in the Old Testament starting with the 5 first books of the bible, penned by Moses were actually written about the Lord Jesus Christ. He further notes that everything written by the prophets were also written about Him.

Talk about a bible study. Wow what an experience these two were having.

How many of us have spent time studying these books with the total intent of finding Him? Yet, He is the subject of these entire books.

You have heard me say in the past (as many others have also said) The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed; the New Testament is the Old Testament revealed. In other words, you and I will not find the New Testament explained in the Old, nor will we be able to understand the Old without the explanation developed in the New.

These two here had no New Testament to rely upon. All they had was the Old and it is full of the Lord Jesus.

Jesus said in John 5:39 “you search the scriptures wherein you expect to find eternal life, but they are actually testifying of Me.”

Bible teachers have a great opportunity in front of them. That opportunity is to preach only from the Old Testament without mentioning the New and only teach about Jesus Himself. Could be a mountain to climb for some folks.

There are literally hundreds of prophecies from the Old Testament concerning the Lord Jesus that are found in the gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The book of Matthew presents Jesus as the **Messiah**, the lion of the tribe of Judah. – Mark presents Jesus Christ in the role of **suffering servant** – Luke presents Jesus Christ as the **son of man**, and John presents Jesus Christ as the **Son of God**.

Each book supports this mission – Matthew introduces Jesus Christ through the genealogy by starting with Abraham – Mark (because no one is interested in the genealogy of a **servant**) starts with the role of a suffering servant – Luke starts because he is interested in the **blood line** starts his epistle with Adam and John, most people don't recognize starts the genealogy of Jesus Christ as the "**pre-existent one**."

Matthew writes to the Jew on what Jesus **said** – Mark writing of Jesus as a servant write concerning what He **did**- Luke dealing with the humanity of Jesus emphasis what Jesus **felt**, and John emphasizes who Jesus **really was**.

If we understand this, it will help us understand each of the gospels in a proper manner.

Matthew writes to the Jew, Mark to the Romans Luke to the Greek, John to the Church.

Further when Jesus is teaching in John 16 vs 13 says He (the Holy Spirit) will not speak of his own authority, but whatever he hears, He will speak. Further in verse 14. He will glorify ME, for He will take that which is mine and reveal it unto you.

How consistent is His ministry. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit is spoken of as the "unknown servant" when seeking a bride for Isaac, in the book of Ruth he is listed as the "unnamed" servant as he introduces Ruth to Boaz. It is interesting that he is always hiding as the unnamed.

He will not speak of himself, but will reveal unto you ME, Jesus said.

Did you know that the first miracle in the gospel of John where Jesus turned the water into wine, that it wasn't water from a well, or as we imagine from the tap so to speak. We read in verse 6 of chapter 2 that this water was the water of purification that He used to turn into wine. Why is that important? Because to the Jew, this process of purification was very important and had to do with the ashes of the Red Heifer for purification purposes. Very important we understand where Jesus was coming from and what he was doing in front of His people.

Outside of John 3:16 which is the most famous verse in the bible, most often quoted, there is also very important verses in verse 11 & 12 of chapter 1. Why are they important verses?

Adam was a direct creation of God. Everyone else was the creation of a sperm and egg and a creation of another human being.

Not so those who (according to verse 12) receive Jesus as Lord and Savior are now born as Adam was – direct creation of God Himself. We were sons of Adam, but now Sons of the living God.

It is also interesting to note that over ½ of the book of John is written about the last week of Christ's ministry on the earth.

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