



# Messiah Returns

(Luke 24:36-48 )

## Luke 24:36-48

<sup>36</sup> As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” <sup>37</sup> But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit.

<sup>38</sup> And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup> See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.

<sup>41</sup> And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate before them.

## Luke 24:36-48

<sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, <sup>46</sup> and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, <sup>47</sup> and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.

# Seeing is Believing



# Jesus Returns Physically for 40 Days

- “He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.” (Acts 1:3 ESV)
- **Forty in the Bible shows significance:**
  - Noah and the ark: 40 days and 40 nights of rain
  - Moses and the Ten Commandments: 40 days on Mt. Sanai
  - Jesus and the three temptations: 40 days in the wilderness
  - Jesus and his glory: 40 days between his resurrection and his ascension to heaven

# Jesus Appears to 500 Disciples

- <sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> **Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time**, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. (1 Corinthians 15:3-8)

# **Some Reasons for Jesus Returning Bodily**

- To confirm his bodily resurrection after his crucifixion
- To strengthen the faith and courage of his disciples
- To prepare his disciples to share the Good News

# **Definition of “Epistemology”**

“The study of how we know what we know”



# Physical Knowledge: Measuring Christ's Presence

- **Jesus Appears after His Resurrection (Luke 24:36-43)**
- **Jesus Walks Beside His Disciples (Luke 24:13-15)**
- <sup>13</sup> That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them.
- **Jesus Walks on the Water (Matthew 14:25-27)**
- <sup>25</sup> And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

# Emotional Knowledge: Experiencing Christ's Presence

- **The Joy of Recognition (Luke 24:41)**
- “And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling”
- **Hearts on Fire (Luke 24:30-32)**
- <sup>30</sup> When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?”
- **Mary Spends Quality Time with Jesus (Luke 10:41-42)**
- <sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, <sup>42</sup> but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”

# Spiritual Knowledge: Understanding Christ's Presence

- **Definition: “Illumination” of Scripture**
- “The ongoing work of **the Holy Spirit** in the Christian person and community **assisting believers to interpret, understand, and obey the Scriptures**. Illumination is a matter of faith as well as intellectual assent—the Spirit’s goal in illumination moves beyond mere intellectual assent to propositions of Scripture to the moving of the human will to trust Christ and obey him.”

*--Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms*

# Spiritual Knowledge: Understanding Christ's Presence

- **Fulfillment of Prophecies**
- <sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” (Luke 24:44)
- <sup>25</sup> And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. (Luke 24:25-27)

# Fulfillment of Prophecies: Moses

- **Genesis 49:10**
- The scepter shall not depart from Judah,  
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,  
until tribute comes to him;<sup>[a]</sup>  
and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.
- **Deuteronomy 18:15**
- <sup>15</sup> “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—

# Fulfillment of Prophecies: Prophets

- **Isaiah 61:1**
- The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me  
to bring good news to the poor;<sup>[a]</sup>  
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound
- **Daniel 7:13**
- and behold, with the clouds of heaven  
there came one like a son of man,  
and he came to the Ancient of Days  
and was presented before him.

# Fulfillment of Prophecies: Prophets

- **Zechariah 9:9**
- Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
    Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
Behold, your king is coming to you;  
    righteous and having salvation is he,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
    on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

# Fulfillment of Prophecies: Psalms

- **Psalm 2:2**
- The kings of the earth set themselves,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the LORD and against his Anointed
- **Psalm 118:22**
- The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.
- **Psalm 132:11**
- The LORD swore to David a sure oath  
from which he will not turn back:  
“One of the sons of your body  
I will set on your throne



# Believing Without Seeing

- Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” (John 20:29 NIV)
- For we walk by faith, not by sight. (2 Corinthians 5:7)
- <sup>8</sup> Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory. (1 Peter 1:8)



**Let Us Pray**

