FINAL STUDY NOTES - *LUKE Chapter 24:13-53* 6/30-7/1/2025

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION: Phil Twente: <u>https://www.ptwente.com</u> - Previous Audio/notes <u>ptwente@gmail.com</u> cell 714 425 9221 NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada) THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE! MEETING ID - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484 Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09

Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 - Passcode: 087484

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,87858644763# US (San Jose) +13462487799,,87858644763# US (Houston) Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York). Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbUX7eWEpN

TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).

- TUES MORNING MTG PLACE: <u>1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR</u> (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions, suggest using *WAZE* (waze.com/live map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com),
- AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

MEETING ID# - 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

Join Zoom Meeting https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85309150746?pwd=Tk5oVjN0TzdpWjE3UC9Oam05a21uQT09

Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746 - Passcode: 715340

One tap mobile; +16699006833,,85309150746# US (San Jose) +12532158782,,85309150746# US (Tacoma) Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose); +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston); +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C); +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago); +1 929 436 2866 US (New York). Meeting ID: 853 0915 0746 Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kkW7uQ2Q6 HAVING TROUBLE LOGGING INTO Zoom? https://www.technipages.com/troubleshooting-zoom-login-errors

OPENING PRAYER

LUKE – <u>Chapter 24:13-53:</u> The final week of Jesus' ministry on earth. The resurrection, the dramatic climactic conclusion of the Gospel! The Road to Emmaus; (vs. 13-27); The Disciples' Eyes Opened – (vs. 28-35); Jesus Appears to His Disciples – (vs. 36-43); The Scriptures Opened – (vs. 44-49): The Ascension – (50-53)!

On the Road to Emmaus

Luk 24:13-14 Now behold, two of them were traveling that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was seven miles from Jerusalem. [14] And <u>they talked together of all</u> these things which had happened.

• **Two of the disciples were walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus**, talking about all the crucifixion events, discussing how horribly disappointed they were. How that their hopes for the kingdom had been so shattered.

Luk 24:15 So it was, while they <u>conversed and reasoned</u>, that Jesus Himself drew near and went with them.

• Jesus came out and began to walk along with them. For a time, they were miraculously prevented from seeing and knowing that it was Jesus!

Luk 24:16 But <u>their eyes were restrained</u> (they will be opened in *verse 31*), so that <u>they did not</u> <u>know Him</u>.

• They just did not realize who it was. The eyes of unbelief. Blind. Tragic, too. Unbelief has such a blinding effect upon people. Whereas faith opens up your eyes. We see so many people who are bound in unbelief. And we see how blind they are to the spiritual realities that exist around us. They do not see them. They do not see the hand of God in nature. Or in the circumstances or the events of their life. They seem to be totally blind to these things. "*Their eyes were restrained so that they did not know Him.*" God actively intervened to keep them from recognizing Him until it was time for Him to depart.

Luk 24:17-18 And He said to them, "What <u>kind of conversation is this</u> that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?" [18] Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?"

- It was something that everybody knew about. When Jesus asked, how come you guys are so sad? What is your problem? They said, are you the only stranger around here that does not know what has happened lately in Jerusalem?
- This is a great application for us as we notice how Jesus joins these two relatively unknown disciples, who are given one of the longest scripture narratives with Jesus following His resurrection.
- He sees they are down and sad. He begins to draw them out, lovingly and patiently listening all the way from *verses 19* through 24, telling Him the things He already knows.
- How good a listener am I? Am I lovingly caring and patient or short, impatient to respond with my thoughts? Will my thoughts and responses be only those that are led by the Spirit? Am I helpful or harmful?

Luk 24:19 And He said to them, "<u>What things</u>?" So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was <u>a Prophet mighty in deed and word</u> before God and all the people,

- Jesus, seemingly with a bit of humor, *said*, *What things*? It took much self-control by Jesus to answer with such composure!
- What are you talking about? As though He did not know. But giving them the opportunity to express their feelings over the things that have happened. He was drawing them out.
- *Jesus a Prophet mighty in deed.* Surely when you read of the life of Jesus, the miracles that He performed, the opening of the blind eyes, making the lame to walk, cleansing the leper, raising the dead, no man in the history of the world has done these kind of deeds that Jesus did, healing all manner of sicknesses that were among the people.
- Not only though mighty in deed but mighty in word. <u>Today we still marvel at the teachings</u> of Jesus. We marvel at the Sermon on the Mount. His words have influenced more people towards a good life than any other person in history. His words have had more influence on world history than any other man. Surely mighty in word and in deed. You cannot deny that.
- Here we are right now with a hope of eternal life because of the words of Jesus. Here we are transformed from a life of darkness, a life that is governed by sin to a life of righteousness, seeking after the Lord and the things of the Lord. Living a life of honesty, purity, righteousness, knowing that that is what our Lord desires.

Luk 24:20 and <u>how the chief priests</u> and <u>our rulers delivered Him</u> to be <u>condemned</u> to death, and <u>crucified</u> Him.

- Jesus was a good man and yet they condemned Him and crucified Him. One thing that the Bible makes certain that you all know is that Jesus did not die for sin that He committed. (2Co 5:21) For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.
- Pilate said, "I have examined Him, I find no fault in Him. He died not for His sins, but He died for your sins. (Isa 53:6b) And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. All of the sins I have ever committed were laid on Jesus Christ. He died for me.

• Because He died for my sin, I do not have to die for my sin. He took my sin, dying in my place, thus I do not have to die for my sin and those who believe in Jesus do not have to die for their sins but can have eternal life by their believing in Him! That is the gospel. That is God's good news! That though you have sinned and though you are guilty, your guilt can be forgiven! More than that, God just counts you as though you were never guilty! <u>He justifies you because of the death of Jesus Christ</u> upon the cross.

Luk 24:21 But <u>we were hoping</u> that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.

- We thought that He was the Messiah, the Redeemer. We thought He was the One that was going to establish the kingdom of God, ushering in an age of righteousness, the golden age. The age of God's reign and God's rule over the earth. We thought He was the One. We thought this was it. We trusted. But here and now, showing the reason for their sadness, for their despair because they crucified Him,
- Our hope is gone! It is over. He is dead! What despair! We had trusted that He would have been the One to redeem Israel. But this is the third day since He was crucified since these things were done.

Luk 24:22-24 Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us. [23] When they did not find His body, they came saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive. [24] And certain of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but <u>Him they did not see</u>."

• Though they had the witness of the women, that the tomb was empty, they had the witness of Peter and John who had gone to the tomb, yet they still did not believe.

Luk 24:25 Then He said to them, "<u>O foolish ones</u>, and <u>slow of heart to believe</u> in all that the prophets have spoken!

- Their problem was that they believed only part of what the prophets had spoken. Didn't the prophets say that He was going to set up a new world in which there would be peace? Didn't they speak of a glorious day when men would not be taking advantage of other men? When everyone would live together in a community of love and sharing. When there would be no greed. When there would be no sickness. Sort of a perfect world. All of us enjoying its glory and beauty without striving. Yes, the prophets did say that. That is a part of the story of the Messiah.
- But the prophets also said, He would be "despised and rejected by men; He would be a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He would be wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities; and with His stripes we would be healed. And God would lay upon Him the iniquities of us all. And that He would die and be numbered with the transgressors in His death" (*Isa 53:3,5,6,12*).
- The prophets spoke of His being crucified. The prophets spoke of His being cut off without receiving the kingdom. And many other such like prophecies of the suffering of the Messiah, giving His back to the smitters, having His beard plucked out (*Isa 50:6*). Things of this nature. But they did not believe those prophecies concerning the Messiah because they could not balance them. They could not figure out how He could reign King of Kings and Lord of Lords and still be put to death, be abused and rejected.
- How strong is my faith? It seems so strong during seasons where "things are going great; God is so good!" Then the rug gets pulled out from under me through a trial or affliction, and my lack of faith is so exposed! "O foolish one and slow of heart to believe!" Is my faith growing? Am I hearing this rebuke less often?

Luk 24:26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"

• Talking about His crucifixion in third person, He said, they have crucified Him. Ought not? Was <u>it necessary</u> that the Messiah had to suffer these things? <u>Do I understand</u> the linkage <u>between the</u> <u>necessity of His suffering and entering into His glory?</u>

Luk 24:27 And <u>beginning at Moses</u> and all the Prophets, <u>He expounded to them</u> in all the <i>Scriptures (quite a Bible study in a 7 mile walk) *the things concerning Himself.*

• Jesus took them through a survey of the Old Testament. He pointed out all of these prophecies about Himself. The sacrifices as He was the Lamb of God, who would take away the sins of the world. And through the Old Testament He showed them these things. *The Seed of the woman' Abraham offers Isaac; The Passover; The Tabernacle; Serpent in the Wilderness, Psa 22; Isa 53; Psa 60!* Oh, if

Cleopas would have only shared with us the things that Jesus taught them as He expounded in the scriptures the things concerning Himself!

- Then He takes them to the Scriptures, kindling their hearts, letting them see that the things they have been so broken up about, <u>are actually fulfilling the reason that He came</u>, <u>fulfilling the purposes</u> of God. (*Luk 24:26*) *Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory*?
- During my trials and afflictions, as well as being asked to pray for others, how quickly and how often do I consider the difficulty, the "crisis," is being used to fulfill God's purpose in my life as well as bringing me to become Christ like? How long does it take for me to see His purpose in every situation? (Jas 1:2-4) My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, [3] knowing that the testing of <u>your faith produces patience</u>. [4] But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

Luk 24:28-31 Then they drew near to the village where they were going, and He indicated that He would have gone farther. [29] But they constrained Him, saying, "Abide with us, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them. [30] Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, (Jesus took charge acting as the host) and gave it to them. [31] Then their eves were opened (passive) and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.

- Perhaps as He took the bread and blessed it, as He gave that blessing of the bread, maybe they were reminded of being there at the sea of Galilee when He took the bread and blessed it and broke it and gave it to the five thousand. And just in His blessing, maybe there was a similarity that suddenly they realized, Wait a minute. <u>Maybe it was that they saw the nail prints in His hands</u> as He broke the bread and <u>they saw the nail prints!</u> Whatever it was, it suddenly happened <u>that their eyes were opened!</u>
- Then their eyes were opened. (2Ki 6:17) And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, <u>open his eyes</u> that he may see." Then <u>the LORD opened the eyes</u> of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. (Num 22:31a) Then <u>the LORD</u> <u>opened Balaam's eyes</u>, and <u>he saw</u> the Angel of the LORD standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand. (Psa 119:18) <u>Open my eyes</u>, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.
- The two men were so excited! Though it was late, toward the evening, they jogged all the way back to Jerusalem. This news is too good to wait until tomorrow! We have to get back and tell them that Jesus is indeed alive. We have seen Him!
- What glorious news! This is the Gospel. And when you have the Gospel, you must share it! You cannot hold it back! You just want to tell people the truth that Jesus is alive! He is risen from the dead!
- **Before they made their journey, turning to each other, their eyes were opened**. *They knew Him! And He vanished from their sight!*

• Am I regularly experiencing this opening of my eyes as I go deeply into His word? Luk 24:32 And they said to one another, "<u>Did not our heart burn within us</u> while He talked

with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

- Did you feel that in your heart as He was talking? Just that burning. You see, the problem with them is that the fire has gone out. While Jesus was with them teaching them, there was a fire burning in their soul. They had hope! The Kingdom of God will be established soon. All of this bitterness in man. We can live together in love and in peace. There was a flame in their hearts in the hope of the establishing of God's kingdom. But that flame went out when He died on the cross.
- Now as He gives them all of the scriptures, as He opens up their understanding, expounding to them the scriptures, the flame begins to burn again! It is rekindled. They just start getting it! Yes, it is true! And the flame started to burn again and thus, when He disappeared, they realized, oh it is the Lord and He disappears.

Luk 24:33 So they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together,

• When they got there, the eleven were there and they shared what had happened. But when they met the eleven, they said, "The Lord is risen indeed." They knew that these guys went away doubting and despondent. Probably said, we are going home, that is the end of it, fellows. Had a good future but we do not know what we are going to do. It was probably a goodbye kind of a thing. Find your way and we will try and find ours.

Luk 24:34 saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"

• He also appeared to Mary and the women, but they did not count that. But now that Peter has the testimony, the Lord appeared to him, they are excited!

Luk 24:35 And they told about the things that had happened on the road, and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread.

- These two guys then shared, oh man, we were on the road, and they told how Jesus came and opened up the scriptures to them. So, it was just an exciting meeting!
- Now, Thomas evidently left. And after Thomas was gone, Jesus Himself showed up.

Jesus Appears to His Disciples

Luk 24:36 Now as they said these things, <u>Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them</u>, and said to them, "Peace to you."

- Jesus Himself! There is an emphatic, double emphasis on Jesus Himself who was speaking! Here is physical, tangible and localized proof of His being in a body, yet capable of disappearing, walking through walls. This suggests another dimension in His resurrected body. Not three dimensions, but more. Paul mentions four in (*Eph 3:18*) may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height. Today particle physicists speak of ten dimensions.
- The resurrection body. This term, (*oikētērion* of the body as a dwelling place for the sprit), occurs only two times in the Bible. (2Co 5:2) For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, (Jud 1:6) And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;
- *Peace to you!* Now following His resurrection, true peace could come between God and man, as well as among men!

Luk 24:37-39 But they <u>were terrified and frightened</u> (notice their response), and supposed they had seen a spirit (ghost). [38] And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And <u>why do doubts arise</u> in your hearts? [39] <u>Behold My hands</u> and <u>My feet</u>, that it is I Myself. <u>Handle Me</u> and see, for a spirit does <u>not have flesh and bones</u> as you see I have."

- I am not a ghost. I am Jesus. Touch Me. Look, here are My hands! Look at the marks in My feet. It is I! The revelation of Jesus. Jesus will reveal Himself even today to those whose hearts are open!
- You can know the experience of a heart that just burns with real passion and love for Jesus. As you begin to experience His love in your life, forgiveness of your sins, and that new life in Christ.
- Handle Me! (1Jn 1:1) That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life.
- Jesus is demonstrating the resurrection, doing something incredibly essential and important, a message that is to be given to the world! He is giving them the keys to the Kingdom! If the disciples understand the resurrection, they (and we) will understand everything else about the Kingdom of God!
- Flesh and bones! (Gen 2:23) And Adam said: "This <u>is now bone of my bones</u> And <u>flesh of my flesh</u>; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man. " (1Jn 3:2-3) Beloved, now we are children of God; and <u>it has not yet been revealed what we shall be</u>, but <u>we know</u> that <u>when He is</u> <u>revealed</u>, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him <u>as</u> He is. [3] And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.
- Jesus is saying this is the same body, raised from the dead, transformed, no longer earthbound, dedicated to spiritual things, but it was the same body! That tells us that the Kingdom is going to be real! *The New Jerusalem is going to be real!*

Luk 24:40 When He had said this, <u>He showed them His hands</u> and <u>His feet</u>.

- Jesus is first in showing His disciples His wounded hands and feet! Christ retained these marks in His glorified body, that they might be proof that it was He Himself and that He was willing that they be seen. He afterwards showed them to Thomas, for He is not ashamed of His suffering for us; therefore we have no reason to be ashamed of them, or of ours for Him!
- As He showed His wounds here to His disciples, for the emphasis of His instructions to them, so He showed them to His Father, for the enforcing of His intercessions with Him. We also see evidence of these marks in His glorified body in *Rev 5:6, Heb 12:24* as well prophetically in *Zec 13:6-7!*

• In this showing of His crucifixion marks, He wanted to establish both His identity and bodily existence in <u>a transformed state</u>! It was *the same body* He had before the cross, upon the cross, and laid in the tomb.

Luk 24:41-43 But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "<u>Have</u> you any food here?" [42] So they gave Him a piece of <u>a broiled fish</u> and some <u>honeycomb</u>. [43] And <u>He took it and ate in their</u> presence

- It must have been "too good to be true"!
- *"Have you any food here?"* Luke, as a doctor, shares <u>here the master stroke that Jesus, our Lord and Savior, is a human being in that He could eat food!</u> In nearly all of Jesus' appearances following His resurrection, He eats with His disciples.

Luk 24:44 Then He said to them, "<u>These are the words which I spoke to you</u> while I was still with you, that <u>all things must be fulfilled</u> which were written in the <u>Law of Moses</u> and the <u>Prophets</u> and <u>the Psalms</u> concerning Me."

• I was telling you that I would be despised and rejected. I was telling you I was going to be crucified. All of these things that were written had to be fulfilled.

Luk 24:45 And <u>He opened their understanding</u>, that <u>they might comprehend</u> the Scriptures.

- How **important** this is! That He opens our understanding to understand the scriptures. (1Co 2:14-15) But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, <u>because they are spiritually discerned</u>. [15] But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one.
- Trying to come in with an intellectual approach does not make it. You have to pray that God will open your eyes to see, to give you understanding. It is so wonderful when the Spirit of God begins to move on a person's heart. Drawing them to Jesus Christ. How the understanding begins to open up and begins to make sense. Things that seemed like a puzzle, which seemed confusing, all of a sudden began to make sense. You say, wow, I see it, yes!
- He died for me! He rose again! And I can have eternal life by believing in Him! It begins to make sense and then it begins to be exciting. Then it begins to be a thrill and a joy, and the old flame begins to blaze inside. The hope that we have in and through Jesus Christ of an eternal glory with Him. He opened their understanding!
- This is an amazing prayer request for all of us every time we open our Bibles! Our Father, in the name of Jesus, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, "Open our understanding, that we might comprehend the Scriptures!"

Luk 24:46-47 Then He said to them, "<u>Thus it is written</u>, and <u>thus it was necessary</u> for the <u>Christ to suffer and to rise</u> from <u>the dead the third day</u>, [47] and <u>that repentance</u> (a change in mind, a turning from and to) and <u>remission of sins</u> should be preached in His name <u>to all</u> <u>nations</u>, beginning at Jerusalem.

- Thus, it is written! It was necessary that I do it.
- It was necessary that I die and rise on the third day and <u>that now you go out and preach</u> to people. First of all, <u>repentance</u>, <u>which is more</u> than just being sorry for the past. The things that you did in rebellion against the word of God. It is changing like the little child said in defining repentance, it said it is being so sorry you do not do it again. There is a change: and repentance always speaks of a change. A changed attitude towards my past life and sin. A changed attitude towards Jesus Christ. That is repentance.
- I am sorry that I offended the Lord by allowing hatred or greed or these other things to master over my life. To allow the desire for pleasures or the lust of my flesh to rule over me. I see where it has not benefited or helped me. Repentance, but then the remission of sins.
- If you repent, God is gracious and loving and forgiving. Because Jesus died for your sins, you can be forgiven by God, and your sins can be washed away. The remission of sins! So, our Gospel begins with the call to repentance but declaring that your sins can be forgiven. Remitted by God.
- As God said, (Isa 1:18) "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool. (1Jn 1:9) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us

from all unrighteousness. The remission of sins, <u>what a glorious message we have to tell the people</u> who have been burdened down by their past, who maybe are suffering because of their past!

- But we can declare unto them that if you will just turn to Jesus Christ, <u>turn away from that past</u>, He will forgive you. Your sins will be remitted, blotted out! Never to be brought up against you again! Today you can be a brand-new person in Jesus! (2Co 5:17) Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.
- Jesus said, you are to start here in Jerusalem, and this is the message you are to take to the world. Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures, but He rose the third day according to the scriptures. And through Him the preaching of the remission of sins.
- Does Jesus' commission apply to me? "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem," How am I doing, in fulfilling it?

Luk 24:48 And you are witnesses of these things.

• Witnessing is not something we do for the Lord; it is something that He does through us if we are filled with the Spirit!

Luk 24:49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem <u>until you are endued with power</u> from on high."

- As the gospel of Luke ends with Jesus telling His disciples, now you tarry in Jerusalem for this promise of the Father. And I will send the promise of My Father upon you. But you just wait there in Jerusalem until you receive this power from God. You are to go out to the world and tell the world the good news.
- Don't go yet. You wait in Jerusalem. There is going to be an important experience, (Joh 14:16) And I will pray the Father, and <u>He will give you another Helper</u>, that He may abide with you forever. (Act 1:8) But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." His disciples could not do the work Jesus had called them to do, unless they were endued with power from on high! That power would come as the Holy Spirit was poured out upon them! (Act 2:1,4) When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. [4] And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- To the present day, the Lord continues to work through His devoted followers. He continues to minister His love, His comfort, His strength, to people!

The Ascension

Luk 24:50 And He led them out <u>as far as Bethany</u> (the east side of the Mount of Olives), and <u>He</u> <u>lifted up His hands</u> and <u>blessed them.</u>

- The other gospels tell us of the Mount of Olives. Bethany is on the Mount of Olives, but it is over the top of the hill and of course, that's where Mary and Martha lived. That is where Lazarus was raised from the dead. So, He went as far as Bethany.
- On the top of the Mount of Olives, there are three different churches that say this is the site of the ascension. One even shows you the footprints He left in the rock when He ascended! It is too bad they did not read the gospel of Luke, and they would have put the church a little further down the hill in Bethany because He led them as far as Bethany, Luke tells us that.
- The final act of Jesus was lifting up His hands, blessing His disciples!

Luk 24:51 Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.

• It was not as if He were taken away before He had said all He had to say, but to intimate that His being parted from them <u>did not put an end to His blessing them</u>. He went to heaven for <u>His</u> intercession for us, which is a continuation of the blessing. <u>He began to bless them on earth</u>, but <u>He</u> went to heaven to <u>go on</u> with it. Christ was now sending <u>His</u> apostles to preach <u>His</u> gospel to the world, giving them <u>His</u> blessing, not for themselves only, <u>but to be given in His name upon all that</u> should believe on <u>Him</u> through their word!

• Jesus is always blessing others! How much of my walk, my life, really is a blessing to others?

Luk 24:52 And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy,

• Their hearts were flaming! Their fires were burning once again.

Luk 24:53 and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God. Amen.

- In the book of Acts, we are told that Jesus was standing there, and He ascended into heaven. (Act 1:11) who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." So, the promise of the return of Jesus Christ. Then the fulfillment of the promise, the Holy Spirit coming upon them and their witnessing in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, and the uttermost parts of the earth.
- They were all gathered together in one accord, in one place and suddenly, there was this sound from heaven like a mighty rushing wind when the Holy Spirit descended upon the church. More than three thousand people were converted that day!

SUMMARY

- What is Jesus doing in heaven today? He is praying for us! (*Heb* 7:25) Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.
- He is preparing a place for us! (Joh 14:2-3) In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. [3] And 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.
- How good a listener am I? (Luke 24:18) How strong is my faith? (Luke 24:25)
- During my trials and afflictions, as well as being asked to pray for others, how quickly and how often do I consider the difficulty, the "crisis," is being used to fulfill God's purposes in my life. (Luke 24:27). Am I regularly experiencing this opening of my eyes as I go deeply into His word? (Luke 24:31). This is an amazing prayer request for all of us every time we open our Bibles! (Luke 24:45). Do Jesus' commission is for me? "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations. (Luke 24:48). How much of my walk, my life, really is a blessing to others? (Luke 24:51)

BECAUSE HE LIVES! The Booth Brothers (3:41)

God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus, He came to love, heal and forgive. He lived and died to buy my pardon, An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Refrain: Because He lives I can face tomorrow. Because He lives, All fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future. And life is worth the living Just because He lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby, And feel the pride and joy He gives, But greater still the calm assurance: This child can face uncertain days because He lives. And then one day I'll cross the river, I'll fight life's final war with pain. And then, as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He reigns. (Refrain, - then) - Because He Lives! (2x)

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Study the Book of Ruth! As we get into the life of David.