

# **The Kingdom and the Empty Tomb (2)**

**Luke 24:45-49**

# Jesus' Resurrection Appearances

- 40-day period
- Luke 24 – Summary
- Overlap of Luke and Acts

# Acts 1:4

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On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but **wait for the gift my Father promised**, which you have heard me speak about.

# Acts 1:8

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But 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.”

 **The continuity of God's plan**

**What does Jesus' dying and  
rising again have anything  
to do with us?**

**1. God's Plan**

**2. God's Mission**

**3. God's Promise**

# 1. God's Plan

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“Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.” (24:45)

They could not understand God's plan as revealed in the Old Testament Scriptures.



**Jesus' resurrection was an even greater surprise.**

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**“Some of our women **amazed us.** They went to the tomb early this morning but didn't find his body...**

**They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see...**

He said to them, “**How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken!** Did not the Christ<sup>□</sup> have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” □

**And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.”**

**(Luke 24:22-27)**

# No expectation of Jesus' resurrection

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“They were **startled and frightened**, thinking they saw a ghost.” (Luke 24:37)

“They, like everybody else in Israel, had been reading the Bible through the wrong end of the telescope. They had been seeing it as the long story of how God would redeem Israel **from suffering**, but it was instead the story of how God would redeem Israel **through suffering**; through, in particular, **the suffering which would be taken on himself by Israel’s representative, the Messiah.**”

(N. T. Wright)

# Condition of our heart

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“Thy Kingdom Come”

vs

“My Kingdom Come”

## 2. God's Mission

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He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will **suffer** and **rise from the dead** on the third day, **and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name** to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

(24:16-19)



# Continuity of God's Plan

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“As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give.”

(Matthew 10:7-8)

# Continuation of God's Mission

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“Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.”  
(John 14:12)

# **God's Mission => God's Plan**

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When we fail to see God's mission as part of God's plan for all of us, we are like the disciples of Jesus who failed to see his death and resurrection as part of God's plan.

**What does Jesus' dying and  
rising again have anything  
to do with us?**

“Most Christians repent enough to get forgiven, but not enough to see the Kingdom.”

(Bill Johnson, *When Heaven Invades Earth*)

# Repentance

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- An inward change of mind leading to an outward change of behavior.
- More than just turning away from sin... it is also turning to God and embracing His kingdom in faith.

## 3. God's Promise

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“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.”  
(24:49)

# God's Promise => God's Mission

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- More power from the Holy Spirit to witness for Christ and His Kingdom.
- Witness with words and works.



**Are you satisfied with your  
level of spiritual power to  
witness for Christ?**