

Encountering Jesus: Studies in the Gospel of Luke

ENCOUNTERING JESUS

(Luke 24:13-35)

I. THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST

- A. There will be an unveiling of the beauty of God in the generation that Jesus returns.

Isa 33:17 Your eyes will see the King in His beauty; They will see the land that is very far off.

Phil. 3:7-8 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

- B. Revelation of Jesus is our greatest need in this hour. Yet, we spend much time and energy on different topics other than the knowledge of God: how to have our pain and struggles removed, how to have a stronger marriage and family, how to fulfill our purpose in life, etc...

1. The low or high view of Jesus and my revelation of him is proportional to my response to Jesus. He is much more than a Therapeutic-self-help-bless-me-Jesus. We need the real, authentic Jesus.

2 Tim. 3:5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!

- C. The knowledge of Jesus Christ...

1. It will result in renewal in our lives.
2. It will be disruptive to the status quo. You won't be able to live "business as usual" if this really impacts you. Who Jesus is and what He did changes everything.
3. It can only be received through the Holy Spirit opening the Word of God to us. Jesus opened up the word to two disciples on the road to Emmaus. It resulted in burning hearts. Where does the fire come from? Revelation of Jesus.

Luke 24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

Luke 24:32 And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"

II. PERSPECTIVES ON THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

- A. John saw four living creatures around the throne of God (Rev. 4:7)
Rev. 4:7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle.
- B. The early church fathers spoke of the four faces of the living creatures. Holy Spirit choose to reveal a different face or perspective of Jesus through the 4 Gospels.
1. Matthew: Son of David. Lion. Jesus emphasized as the Messiah, the King of Israel.
 2. Mark: The Servant of the Lord. Calf (Ox) Jesus took the form of a suffering servant.
 3. Luke: Son of man. Jesus was fully human, so we are deeply connected to Him, yet He is fully God. He is the Savior of the World.
 4. John: The Son of God. Eagle. Jesus makes 7-fold "I AM" statements in John.

III. THE UNIQUENESS OF LUKE'S GOSPEL

- A. In Luke, Jesus is revealed as the Son of Man. Jesus is connected to us. He is connected to the human struggle.
- B. Luke records the fullest account of Jesus' birth. Jesus' genealogy is traced all the way back to Adam (Luke 3). Jesus is not just the Son of Abraham and Son of David, as in Matthew. Jesus is identified with the whole human race.
- C. Luke is the only Gospel that records Jesus being call the "Friend of sinners" (Luke 7:34; 15:2; 19:7). He is the One who seeks the lost sheep, coin, and prodigal son (Luke 15). Jesus repeatedly goes to the outcast, the misfit, the lowly.
- D. Luke emphasizes Jesus as a man of prayer (Lk. 3:21; 5:16; 6:12; 9:28-29; 11:1; 5-8; 18:1-8; 22:31-32; 22:41,44; 23:34).
- E. Luke emphasizes eating. He records the most instances of Jesus going to people's' homes and eating with people (Lk. 7:36; 11:37; 14:1; 19:7; 24:30, 42, 43).
- F. Luke emphasized the role of women in Jesus' ministry (Lk. 8:1-3).
- G. Luke is the only Gospel to record the parable of the Good Samaritan.