

From Sadness to Great Joy

Luke 24:13-35

3 principles to anchor our hope

I. Hardships often help identify false hopes

A. There is real sadness in disappointments

Luke 24:17—...And they stood still, looking sad.

B. There is a need for honest reflection and evaluation

1. In this context

Luke 24:21—*But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened.*

2. In our context

a. Technology

b. Medical science

3. Money and financial gain

4. Entertainment and pleasure

II. Allow Scripture to help you identify true hope

A. The prophets predicted the suffering and resurrection of the Messiah

Luke 24:25-26—*And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"*

John 11:25-26—*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"*

Luke 24:27—*Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.*

1. As seen in the Old Testament

Psalms 22:16-18—*For dogs have surrounded me; a band of evildoers has encompassed me; they pierced my hands*

and my feet. I can count all my bones. They look, they stare at me; they divide my garments among them, and for my clothing they cast lots.

Isaiah 53:12—Therefore, I will allot Him a portion with the great, and He will divide the booty with the strong; because He poured out Himself to death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He Himself bore the sin of many, and interceded for the transgressors.

Psalms 16:9-11—Therefore my heart is glad and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will dwell securely. ¹⁰ For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol; Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay. ¹¹ You will make known to me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; In Your right hand there are pleasures forever.

Psalms 22:1—My God, my God, why have You forsaken me? Far from my deliverance are the words of my groaning. [et al.]

Zechariah 12:10— “I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.

Zechariah 13:7—“Awake, O sword, against My Shepherd, And against the man, My Associate,” Declares the LORD of hosts. “Strike the Shepherd that the sheep may be scattered; And I will turn My hand against the little ones.

2. As seen in the New Testament by Christ

Luke 24:21—But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened.

Matthew 16:21—From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day.

Matthew 17:23—and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day. And they were deeply grieved.

3. As seen in the New Testament by witnesses

Luke 24:22-23—But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, and

did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive.

Luke 24:11—*But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them.*

- B. Without the Scripture to guide us, we will easily become blinded and hope in the wrong things

Romans 5:1-5—*Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

Luke 24:33-35—*And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, saying, "The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon." They began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.*

III. The risen Christ affords you joy, hope, and a new direction

- A. There is a burning within our hearts

Luke 17:32-33—*They said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?"*

- B. There is an urgency and intentionality to share the message

Luke 17:33—*And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, ³⁴saying, "The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon." ³⁵They began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.*

- C. There is enlightenment to former delusions

Ephesians 1:18-20—*I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power*

toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.

D. There is a godliness that leads to great gain

1 Timothy 6:6-9—*But godliness actually is a means of great gain when accompanied by contentment. For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either. If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content. But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction.*