

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke**Lesson 20**

The study of God's Word is for the purpose of growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- If you have never placed your faith in Christ as your Savior, that is your present need.
- On the Cross, all sins were placed on the humanity of Christ and judged; full payment was made for the sins of mankind.
- Salvation is offered freely to each person by simple faith in the finished work of Christ.
- He did all the work to satisfy the Righteousness of God; ours is merely to receive it by faith.
- That one act of faith, directed toward the Person and Work of Christ, brings eternal life, a permanent relationship with God as His child.

John 3:16

John 1:12

Acts 16:31

Jn 3:16 For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. NASB

Jn 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. KJV

Acts

16:31 Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved ... KJV

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke**Lesson 20**

As a believer in Christ, it is imperative that the Word of God be approached with no unconfessed sin in one's life. This permits the filling of the Holy Spirit; thus He can fulfill His teaching ministry in us.

- The filling of the Spirit is a grace provision that restores a believer to *fellowship* that had been broken because of sin.
- Upon the confession of sin, the believer is now ready to study the Word of God and God the Holy Spirit can make it spiritually discernable.
- Scripture reveals, specifically, this grace provision that places us in a posture to learn the Word of God and then apply it.
- Only in the filling of the Spirit, is God able to work in us to His glory.

Psalm 32:5***1 John 1:9***

Ps 32:5 *I acknowledged my sin to Thee, And my iniquity I did not hide; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"; And Thou didst forgive the guilt of my sin. Selah. NASB*

1 Jn 1:9 *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. NASB*

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke**Lesson 20**

Lessons 2-20 continue the study of events and circumstances that were recorded only by Dr. Luke, or when the same accounts appear in other gospels, Luke's added observations that, perhaps, resulted from his professional training as a medical doctor.

Subject: Witnesses of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ

- again, Dr; Luke adds commentary to the final scene of the Cross
- all who witnessed the Crucifixion were moved in their souls by what occurred
- Matthew tells us that the very soldiers that crucified Christ came to believe in Him on that day

Matthew 27:54

27:54 *Now the centurion, and those who were with him keeping guard over Jesus, when they saw the earthquake and the things that were happening, became very frightened and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!" NASB*

- God would give those around the Cross one more opportunity to believe in the Son of God
- earthquakes, unusual darkness, the screams of being forsaken by the Savior, the answer to the dying criminal who placed his faith in Christ -- all brought terror to the hearts of those who knew not Christ as Savior
- God the Holy Spirit would use these events to convict man of the Savior in whose presence he stood

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke

Lesson 20

Luke 23:48

23:48 *When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed Him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things. NIV*

- there were those who were already believers at the place of the Skull, Calvary on which hung the humanity of the Son of God
- while Matthew and Mark mention the women who were watching at a distance, Luke tells us there were also men present who followed Christ
- we know that John was one of these men, for Jesus commended the care of His earthly mother to him
- Perhaps, the Romans kept the crowd at a distance; yet that could not deter those thoughts of despair and grief as they witnessed the crucifixion
- it would take the resurrection to lift their spirits and bring to their understanding the meaning of His Word ... *“let not your hearts be troubled.” (John 14:1)*
- after three days and three nights, their sorrow would be turned to joy as the followers of Christ heard the news that “He is Risen”
- Dr. Luke gives us some insight concerning the burial of the humanity of Christ

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke**Lesson 20**

- while Joseph of Arimathea goes boldly to Pilate to ask for the body of Christ, Luke informs us that this man refused to vote with the majority of the Council to have Christ crucified
- both Matthew and Mark tell us that Joseph of Arimathea was a disciple of Jesus
- John adds that Joseph feared the Jews so he kept his faith secret
- however, it is time to end this secrecy – he and Nicodemus take the body of Jesus, place it in the tomb that Joseph had purchased for himself; they wrap the body in clean linen, which Joseph had bought **(Mark 15:46)**
- they then sprinkle myrrh and aloes which Nicodemus had bought **(John 19:39)**
- we also see that the women from Galilee, including Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James the Less and Joseph, and Salome also witnessed the burial
- Luke says that these women took note of the positioning of the body in the tomb

Luke 23:55

23:55 ...and saw the tomb and how his body was laid in it. NIV

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

- it is Luke who gives us the emotional response of the women when, early that Sunday morning, they went to the tomb to embalm the body of Jesus

Luke 24:4- 5

24:4 *And it happened that while they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling apparel;*

5 *and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead? NASB*

- Dr. Luke proceeds to record the message of the angels that turned the attention of the women back to the Scriptures that the Lord had taught them

Luke 24:6-8

24:6 *"He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee,*

7 *saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again. "*

8 *And they remembered His words. NASB*

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

- here is an example of the recalling ministry of God the Holy Spirit to those who desire to apply Truth to a situation
- their fear and trembling will be turned to joy as they rest in the Truth of resurrection
- but would anyone listen to them -- for after all -- they were just emotional women, or were they?
- Dr. Luke records the reaction of the disciples, later to be apostles to the news from these women

Luke 24:11

24:11 *But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. NIV*

- who is emotional to the point of not thinking clearly?
- the eleven disciples are feeling sorry for themselves; they did not go to embalm the body of Jesus
- they are out of fellowship, absorbed in themselves instead of desiring Truth to be brought to their memory
- John and Peter do, however, run to the tomb
- John runs faster, gets there first followed by Peter.
- John sees and believes that Jesus was not there (**John 20:8b NIV**)

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

- Luke tells us that Peter saw, and went away unable to figure out what was going on (**Luke 24:12**)
- at this point neither John nor Peter are remembering what Jesus taught them

John 20:9

20:9 They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead. NIV

- the result of unbelief is dejection, defeat, self pity and disillusion; no joy

John 20:10

20:10 Then the disciples went back to their homes. NIV

- that was not the case of these faithful women who followed Jesus with no record of them having forsaken him as all the disciples did
- a joyful heart belonged to these faithful women
- though not appreciated, at this point by the disciples, these women are greatly honored by God the Holy Spirit as He places in the eternal Word of God the record of their love for the Lord

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

- well, the time will come for the men to have a chance to change their thinking and once again focus on the Scriptures
- Dr. Luke records, in detail, Jesus presenting Himself to two of his male followers, Cleopas and Simon (not Peter), as they walked on the road to Emmaus

Luke 24:13-32

24:13 *And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs.*

14 *And they talked together of all these things which had happened.*

15 *And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them.*

16 *But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.*

17 *And he said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?*

18 *And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass therein these days?*

Luke 24:13-32 *continued*

- 24:19** *And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people:*
- 20** *And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him.*
- 21** *But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done.*
- 22** *Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre;*
- 23** *And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive.*
- 24** *And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found it even so as the women had said: but him they saw not.*
- 25** *Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:*
- 26** *Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?*
- 27** *And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.*
- 28** *And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further.*

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

Luke 24:13-32 *continued*

- 24:29** *But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.*
- 30** *And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.*
- 31** *And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.*
- 32** *And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? KJV*

- once again we see that emotion blocks proper application of Scripture to a situation
- they had all the facts concerning Jesus; they even repeated those facts to the risen Christ

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

- they also knew the facts concerning the empty tomb and the report of the women and even that of Peter and John
- with all these facts before them, their overwhelming self-pity and sorrow make it necessary for the Lord to chide them for their unbelief
- it is the Word of God that convicts them and gets their thinking off of self
- now, having believed what Jesus told them and having seen Him in person, they go seven miles back to Jerusalem to tell the eleven disciples who are still holding on to their ignorance of the resurrection
- only Luke reports this conversation of Cleopas and Simon to the eleven

Luke 24:33-35

24:33 *And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them,*

34 *Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.*

35 *And they told what things were done in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread. KJV*

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

- the Eleven still refuse to believe that Jesus is risen from the dead
- Jesus, personally, steps into the situation for these hard-headed disciples are not going to change their minds
- Mark tells us that Jesus had to rebuke the Eleven

Mark 16:14

16:14 *Later Jesus appeared to the Eleven as they were eating; he rebuked them for their lack of faith and their stubborn refusal to believe those who had seen him after he had risen. NIV*

- John states that they were together on that Sunday evening behind locked doors for fear of the Jews
- while these disciples are called the Eleven, there are only ten present when Jesus reveals Himself to them; Thomas is absent

Luke 24:36-43

24:36 *And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you.*

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

Luke 24:36-43 *continued*

24:37 *But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.*

38 *And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?*

39 *Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.*

40 *And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet.*

41 *And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?*

42 *And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb.*

43 *And he took it, and did eat before them. KJV*

- some important facts to note concerning the resurrected body of Jesus
- the unique resurrection body of Jesus still had the nail prints and scar from the spear
- He was recognizable
- only Jesus Christ can bring peace to a troubled soul

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

- in resurrection, Jesus ate food, He could speak, He knew them by name and they knew Him
- will not our resurrection bodies have these same qualities except for the nail prints and scar?

1 John 3:2

3:2 *Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. NASB*

- even seeing, when overpowered by excessive emotion, hinders the use of faith, which is a greater means of understanding
- Peter will later tell Christians that faith is more important than experience -- faith in Christ is the only means of salvation
- the exercise of positive volition in the filling of the Holy Spirit and faith in the Word of God, are essential for spiritual understanding

1 Peter 1:8-9

1:8 *and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory,*

9 *obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls. NASB*

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke**Lesson 20**

- the disciples have not yet connected the dots -- they are still operating on experience, not by faith
- they are depending on what they have seen and that can be dangerous for even Satan can disguise/masquerade himself as an angel of light **(II Corinthians 11:14)**
- therefore it is necessary for the Lord to bring the attention of the Eleven back to the Scriptures since that is what is going to sustain these future apostles in the days ahead
- their lives will be marked with persecution and death for preaching the gospel
- they must depend on the Word of God to sustain them, not a spiritual experience -- in this case, that of seeing the risen Savior
- the disciples were still operating by sight and not by faith -- their thinking had to focus on Scripture, not experience
- Dr. Luke tell us of Jesus' final instructions and how He opened their understanding to the Scriptures

Luke 24:44-50

24:44 *And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.*

45 *Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,*

Series Under the Microscope of Dr. Luke
Lesson 20

Luke 24:44-50 continued

- 24:46** *And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:*
- 47** *And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*
- 48** *And ye are witnesses of these things.*
- 49** *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*
- 50** *And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. KJV*