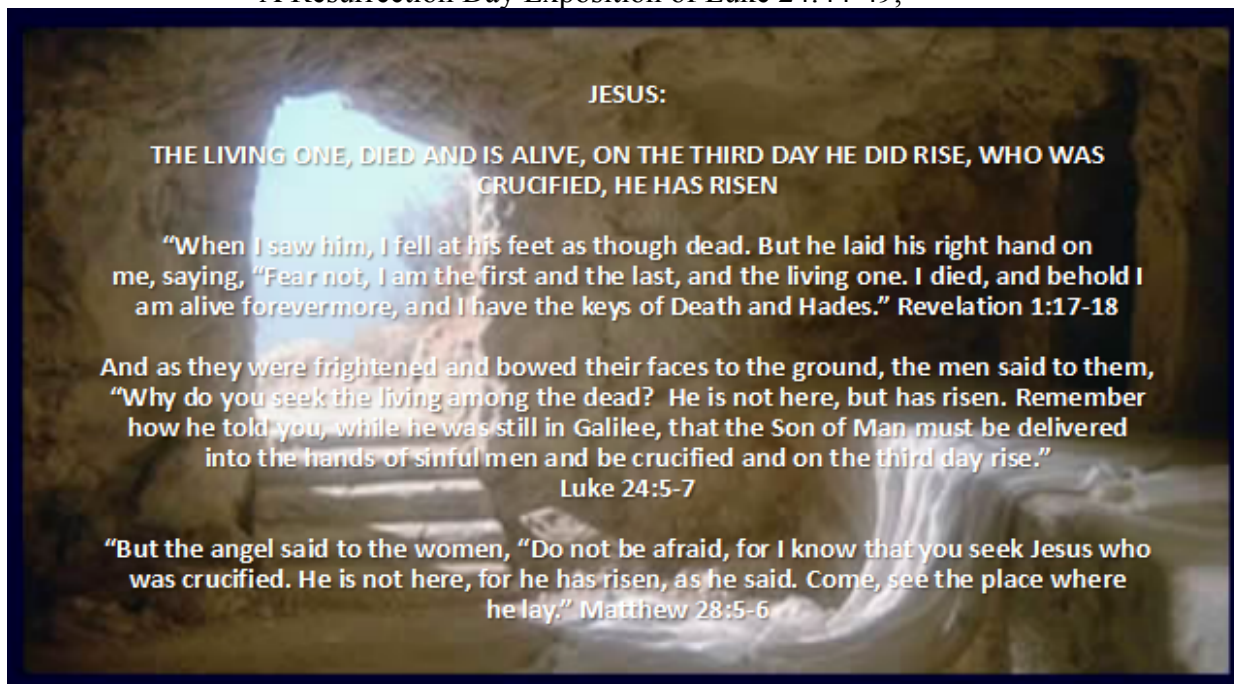




A Resurrection Day Exposition of Luke 24:44-49,



JESUS:

THE LIVING ONE, DIED AND IS ALIVE, ON THE THIRD DAY HE DID RISE, WHO WAS CRUCIFIED, HE HAS RISEN

"When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades." Revelation 1:17-18

And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise."

Luke 24:5-7

"But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay." Matthew 28:5-6

A Resurrection Day Message:

**"These are My Words." A Jesus Opened Mind, from the Gospel of Luke,
Chapter 24:44-49**

April 4, 2021

Luke 24:44-49

44 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, 46 and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Our text from Luke's gospel has Jesus saying, after He had risen, "***These are my words.***" But for his disciples to understand what He explained from the Old Testament Scriptures *He* had to open their minds.

His words: worth hearing, listening to, internalizing, and living by. **Anyone who has risen from the dead, has got to know what He's talking about.**

This passage comes from the written investigative report done by Luke, a 1st century physician. Luke wrote his gospel to someone named, Theophilus, whose name means, "Lover of God," a message about Jesus to all who love God. In the first 4 verses of his work, he reported it came from the experience of "***those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses***" into "***an orderly account***" saying to the lover of God, "***That you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught***" (Luke 1:1-4). In a time

where anything he wrote could be checked out, verified or denied, he published what he called a **“narrative”** and said it was **certainty**. Today, people have a narrative, and it seem that facts only matter if they support the usually political narrative. Luke went in the opposite direction, his narrative was derived from and based upon facts of certainty. The following words of Jesus after His resurrection, about His resurrection and what has to happen after *is certain*. Luke was an investigative reporter to his generation about the life of Jesus. **Certainty** is his claim. This is true stuff!

From this text, at the end of Luke’s narrative, chapter 24: verses 44-49 may we understand that *Jesus* opened minds to understand the Old Testament prophesied plan of His death and resurrection. Jesus’ resurrection results in preaching repentance and forgiveness to all nations accomplished by the promise and power of the Holy Spirit, starting at Jerusalem where they were, and going global. It began with the Spirit on Pentecost and will continue until Jesus returns, as Paul said, **“We proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes”** (1 Corinthians 11:26).

This 6 verse text speaks of the Bible, Jesus’ death, Jesus’ resurrection which we celebrate today, preaching His message to turn to God away from anything else, to become clean from sin for every nation, and to receive the promise and power of th Holy Spirit!

Jesus said, “These are my words.” Jesus opened then and now opens minds to understand, that Jesus suffered and then rose on the 3rd day, His name and His promise (of the Spirit) will accomplish His purpose, the reason He rose. Resurrection day and missions go hand in hand.

1 . “These are my words.”

Anyone who has risen from the dead, has got to know what He’s talking about.

Jesus opens minds to understand the Bible.

Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

The disciples couldn’t understand the meaning of the Old Testament scriptures regarding Jesus *until He opened their minds*. The only way any of us can really understand God’s words is to know Him. The only way to know God is to come to Jesus. The reason He opened their minds is because they followed Jesus, since Jesus called them with the words He calls us with, **“you will be catching men”** (Luke 5:10), **“Follow me”** (5:27).

If you want to enter a journey of Jesus induced understanding of the Bible, of life, of death, your purpose for being here, of history, of relationships, anything else, the first step is to decide to follow Jesus. Do you want to understand God? Do you want to know about His word? It begins by surrendering our lives to Jesus. When we make up our minds to put our minds on Jesus, Jesus opens our minds. It’s amazing what a Jesus opened mind will think!

2 . “These are my words.”

Anyone who has risen from the dead, has got to know what He’s talking about.

The Jesus opened mind understands the cross and resurrection as part of God’s plan and purpose.

The Jesus opened mind thinks about what Jesus did for us!

the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name.

The Jesus opened mind understands that Jesus suffered because He loves me, wants me to be part of His plan and purpose and on the third day, certified it by His resurrection. It also understands that though he suffered and died as a man, the price to buy my forgiveness, on the 3rd day (part of understanding Jesus in the Old Testament is that 27 times 3 days is an issue), he shredded death like like a paid off credit card bill, and as God, saved me from my sins, with His blood, bought my soul for eternity with God, life after death instead of death after death.

It also gives a clear definition of sin for what it should be from a human perspective and what it is from God's perspective... as Jesus said, ***These are my words.***"

For me, you, and everyone else, sin is what I walk away from, ***repentance.***

For Him it is what He doesn't hold against me because of His suffering, death and resurrection, ***forgiveness of sins.***

Now that we believe in a resurrected Jesus, what is sin to us?

For us, *sin is no longer a hindrance* between a repentant believer and a resurrected savior! And even if one's sins have been abundant, so is His pardon. These are truly amazing words about the relationship between a sinning person, repenting, or turning away from sin toward God, and God pardoning in abundance from Isaiah the prophet, chapter 55 verse 7, ***“let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”*** God's forgiveness because of the cross and resurrection is credit without limits for it's ***in His name.*** But for one who had made sinning a lifestyle, it's also unrestricted power to change direction, because of Jesus' resurrection. As the Brits used to say, "Hurrah!" As Burqueños say, "Orale!" On the 3rd day He did rise!

3 . "These are my words."

Anyone who has risen from the dead, has got to know what He's talking about.

The Jesus opened mind understands the mission,

to all nations...the promise of my Father upon you...power from on high.

This text confirms and fulfills the promise from Isaiah 32:15, ***“Until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high.”***

Jesus has spoken of: The bible. His death and resurrection. Sinners' (myself included) repentance and God's forgiveness. From the scriptures, Jesus' death and resurrection, a sinner's repentance and forgiveness, remains a unique mission to proclaim to all the nations. He wants to open minds of people from the whole world, in every nation through His followers, through you, through me. When he called the first disciples, He put together following Him and catching people in the same purpose. He still does.

But He won't let us do this alone. In fact it's *Mission Impossible* using human reasoning, effort, and strategy. He made a promise. He gives us the Holy Spirit as the one who doesn't help us try, but makes it happen in Acts 1:8, ***“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*** He promises it'll get done, through us, but not from our own effort. God's power brought Jesus back

from the dead, it will take His message to the world. That's the real reason we live. We are not here with a priority to make a respectable living, retire comfortable, and to leave some good graffiti upon earth till we are gone, and then hopefully with our paid up spiritual fire insurance, go to heaven. None of that is wrong, but it isn't a life purpose. Jesus told us to ***“seek first the kingdom of God”*** (Matthew 6:33) and He'll take care of the rest. When people with Jesus opened minds get the purpose of His mission His promised Holy Spirit will get it done. There are 3 ways everyone can participate in the mission of great power to the end of the earth. Everyone can pray, Paul prayed for his own nation (Romans 10:1), the prayers of the saints connected the blood of Jesus to save people from all of the nations (Revelation 5:8-10). People can give, and for the Philippian church who gave to Paul's missions work, they were promised in return, ***“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus”*** (Philippians 4:19). And some, the Holy Spirit says to go to the missions field, ***“the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them”*** (Acts 13:2).

These words of Jesus after His resurrection ask me and you, “Do you have a Jesus opened mind?” “Do you understand and accept that the Bible is God's word to believe?” “Do you realize by His suffering and death how much you're loved?” “Do you know how much power His resurrection on the 3rd day (Jesus keeps making the 3 day issue) makes available to you to live as a new creation with a new life?” “Do you believe that your sin is something for you to walk away from and for God to forgive, in Jesus' name? Do you accept His mission to join His promise, in His power reach the world with His message?

The words of Jesus, I have read
Taking serious what He's said
He who has risen from the dead
Must know what He's talking about!

Jesus promised that I can find
If He will open up my mind
The Old Testament is behind
Jesus' death and resurrection

Jesus is the powerful name
For repentance from all my shame
His forgiveness is mine to claim
Because He devastated death

With such a beautiful vision
Comes an impossible mission
It's known as The Great Commission
IT COMES WITH A NEW PROVISION

Because Jesus Christ has risen
And all my sins are forgiven
I receive the Spirit given
With power that comes from heaven

So how should every Christian start?
First it's a matter of the heart,
I can pray in power, or give,
Move to a mission field to live

These are things that come out of faith
By those who've been saved by His grace
In the power of the Spirit
So that every nation hear it

Thank you Lord my mind you've opened
My once dead life, full of hope and
I work for more than subsistence
The purpose of my existence

To Love you, Jesus Christ my king,
To put you before everything,
Invite the nations of the earth
To follow You, for all it's worth

Beloved but unsaved sinner
Christ fought death and He's the winner
Today and now I call you out
He knows what He's talking about

Give your life, give it all away
On this resurrection day
He's opened your mind, Hear Him say
Let me wash all your sins away!