

### 3. The Emmaus Disciples

Mark 16:12-13; Luke 24:13-35

#### Mark 16:12-13

<sup>12</sup> After these things he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. <sup>13</sup> And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.

#### Luke 24:13-35

<sup>13</sup> That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles<sup>[a]</sup> from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. <sup>16</sup> But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, “What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” <sup>19</sup> And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.” <sup>25</sup> And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

<sup>28</sup> So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, <sup>29</sup> but they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?” <sup>33</sup> And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, <sup>34</sup> saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

If I were to write a tile for our time together last week and this week it would be, “Not Plan B” and this would be part 2. Last week we looked at the Old Testament prophesies of the crucifixion and discussed How Jesus fulfilled these at the cross. We discussed how the plan of God to send His son to pay the price for our sins was set before the foundation of the world.

This week we are going to look at this from the disciple’s perspective, and discuss some of the implication of this.

## Before the foundations of the world.

The crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus Christ was not “plan B” but the center of the scripture all along. God planned the salvation of man (by name) before the foundations of the world. This was the plan all along and when Christ came and died He was fulfilling all of the Old Testament prophesies and obeying the plan of God set before the foundations of the World. We

looked at a few Scriptures last week that supported this concept.

**1 Peter 1:18-21** - knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown **before the foundation of the world** but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

**Titus 1:2-3; Matthew 25:31-34;**

**Revelation 13:8** - and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain.

That was the plan all along – that Jesus would die for our sins and pay the price for our rejecting God.

## Wagon Wheel

If All of History was viewed as a wagon wheel, then the Crucifixion and the resurrection would be the hub. All the events before it and after it plug into the Hub and point towards it. Everything is influenced by our sin nature and points to a need for a savior. Wars, famine, hunger, poverty, all of it shows us the effects of sin and the need for a solution. The cross is the hub, the center of all of History. All of the Old Testament is pointing towards that event, and all of the history after the Old Testament is pointing back to that event. Amazingly, all of our lives

are to be pointing back to that event as well. We too, are on the timeline of Scripture. We stand in “the last days” and are to be pointing to the cross.

## The Disciples missed it

The passage for today has two disciples who are confused and bewildered. They are not part of the eleven core group, but are clearly followers of Jesus. Jesus was followed by many disciples in his ministry, not just the 12, but the twelve were the core group. The two we are discussing today were disciples of Christ, but not part of this core group. They followed Jesus ministry, and by their own admission believed that He was the one to redeem Israel, but they still did not understand when it happened because they came with their own ideas of how Jesus was going to do it. They thought that Jesus was going to free Israel from Rome and set up His kingdom which would last forever. They saw him as a conqueror and thought that He was going to redeem them physically.

There are many passages that shows the disciples in-ability to understand that Jesus was come to die. It was concealed from them. They could not understand. Instead they are arguing about who will be greatest in the kingdom. The disciples had no idea that this was God’s plan all along. They missed it.

Luke 9:43-45

<sup>43</sup> And all were astonished at the majesty of God.

But while they were all marveling at everything he was doing, Jesus<sup>[a]</sup> said to his disciples, <sup>44</sup> “Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men.” <sup>45</sup> But they did not understand this saying, and it was concealed from them, so that they might not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying.

<sup>46</sup> An argument arose among them as to which of them was the greatest. <sup>47</sup> But Jesus, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a child and put him by his side <sup>48</sup> and said to them, “Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great.”

Luke 18:31-34

<sup>31</sup> And taking the twelve, he said to them, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. <sup>32</sup> For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. <sup>33</sup> And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise.” <sup>34</sup> But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

#### John 2:18-22

<sup>18</sup> So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” <sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup> The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple,<sup>[a]</sup> and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup> But he was speaking about the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup> When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

#### Matthew 16:21-23

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 on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “Far be it from you, Lord!<sup>[a]</sup> This shall never happen to you.” <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance<sup>[b]</sup> to me. For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

#### Matthew 20:17-28

<sup>17</sup> And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way he said to them, <sup>18</sup> “See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn him to death <sup>19</sup> and deliver him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and he will be raised on the third day.”

<sup>20</sup> Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. <sup>21</sup> And he said to her, “What do you want?” She said to him, “Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.” <sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” <sup>23</sup> He said to them, “You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” <sup>24</sup> And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. <sup>25</sup> But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. <sup>26</sup> It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant,<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>27</sup> and whoever would be first among you must be your slave,<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>28</sup> even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

#### John 13:7

Jesus answered him, “What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand.”

#### John 13:19

I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he.

Luke 10:21-24

<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!” <sup>18</sup> And he said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

<sup>19</sup> Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

<sup>21</sup> In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>a</sup> <sup>22</sup> All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, or who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”

<sup>23</sup> Then turning to the disciples he said privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! <sup>24</sup> For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.”

## The Road to Emmaus – Whose plan is it?

The two on the road to Emmaus may have heard all of these things, maybe only some. We don't know when they joined up with Jesus or what they had heard. What we do know is that they were leaving the rest of the disciples and possibly returning home. Don't fault them though, the rest of the disciples are locked in a room in Jerusalem scared to death that the Romans were coming for them next and trying to decide what to do. None of them believed. In fact, they laughed and didn't believe even when they were told the body was missing and that the stone was rolled away. They were clearly not men who were scheming to steal a body and begin to proclaim falsely that Jesus had risen – it would seem as if Jesus rising from the dead was one of the furthest things from their minds.

They felt like Jesus let them down, like He couldn't have been what they hoped that He was because He didn't do what they wanted Him to do. They were looking for a king who would establish a kingdom. I think that's why they were so often talking about who would be greatest in the kingdom. They were imaging a savior that would save their nation from foreign rule and would restore the riches and grandeur of the past – of David and Solomon. Look at what they are lamenting in Luke 24:21

**Luke 24:21** - **But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel.** Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened.

How could He redeem Israel if he died? They simply did not understand how these things could be.

**Q. In what ways do people trust Jesus to accomplish their own plans rather than trusting His plan?**

**Q. Do we sometimes formulate and plan then ask Jesus to bless what is largely our plans and not His?**

## All of Scripture is about Christ

Luke 24:25-27

<sup>25</sup> And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” <sup>27</sup> And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Jesus rebuked them for not believing all that the Scriptures had told them. They evidently knew the Scripture because He rebukes them for not believing, then gently opens Scripture and shows them all of the witnesses to himself in the Old Testament. Some of those we looked at last week. He probably showed them some of the very passages we looked at like Psalms 22 or Isaiah 53, but it singles out Moses and the prophets.

### What was Moses saying about Christ?

Remember that Moses wrote the first 5 books of the Old Testament

#### Indirect References:

The calling of the children of Israel out of Egypt to be a people set-apart

The sacrificial system

The High priest making intercession for the people – Jesus is our high priest

**Hebrews 4:14-16** - Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. <sup>16</sup> Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The Passover lamb

The law that was given is a shadow of the things to come

**Hebrews 10:1** - For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.

The bread of life in the Desert – Mana

The water that sprung from the rock – Jesus is the living water

The continual pattern of fulfilled promises.

#### Direct references

**Genesis 3:15** - I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring<sup>a</sup> and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

When Jacob was going to die in Genesis 49 he calls all of His sons and blesses them. Look at the blessing that he gives to Judah.

**Genesis 49:8-12** - “Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you. **Judah is a lion's cub;** from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? **The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.** Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he has washed his garments in wine and his vesture in the blood of grapes. His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk.

**Revelation 5:5** - And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

**Revelation 19:13** - He *was* clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God.

Or look at this passage – Moses directly speaking about the prophet who is to come.

### **Deuteronomy 18:15-19**

<sup>15</sup> “The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— <sup>16</sup> just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup> And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup> I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup> And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him.

How many times in scripture did Jesus say I do not speak my own words, but the words that the Father has given me?

**John 7:16-18; John 8:26; John 12:49-50; John 14:10; John 14:24; John 17:8**

### **Moses wrote about Him**

When Philip was called to follow Christ he went and found his friend Nathanael and look at what he says to him.

**John 1:45** - <sup>5</sup> Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

Or look at what Jesus says about himself.

**John 5:46-47** - For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. <sup>47</sup> But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

## Jesus's crucifixion was not "Plan B"

I say all of this to bring us to the point again that Jesus death and resurrection was not "Plan B." His death was planned before the foundation of the world. When He came he came to die, not to rule. He came to give his life for our sins. The most amazing thing about this plan is that it was conceived back before the foundation of the world – not as an alternate plan. This was the plan all along, and God knew this plan when he created us.

We already looked at many Scriptures last week that show us that God planned this all, "before the foundation of the World." The implications of this are huge.

- God wrote our names in his book of Life before he laid the foundations of the world. – Rev 13:8
- God knew this would be the plan when he said, "Let us create man in our image." – Gen 1:26
- God loved us so much that he planned to send his Son before man even sinned.
- "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. – John 3:16

God loved us so much that he sent his son to die for us before we were even born – before our parents were born.

The implications for my life are huge:

- I cannot earn what was given to me before I was born.
- I cannot make God love me by anything that I do – He already loves me more than I can imagine
- I cannot earn what I already received.
- If the bill has already been paid there is nothing for me to earn. God already paid the price for my sin. (ex. Trying to pay the bill at a restaurant that has been already paid)
- There is no sin that is too big for God if the price was paid first and God declared it finished.