

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:13-35

Extra: Nicene Creed – Canons of Dort, ch. III/IV, art 11 & rej. 7 (pg 108)

Singing: 408:1-3 – 92:1, 5, 8 – 115:1-4 – 72:1-4

A. Easter wasn't day of *joy for all!*

1. Do you struggle with others about the *mystery of Easter?* (Luke 24:11)

2. Do you struggle like others with *troubling doubts?* (Luke 24:37)

3. Do you struggle like others with *unbelief out of joy?* (Luke 24:41)

B. With all these cases, the Lord dealt similarly in two ways,

1. Preached Himself from OT pages (vs. 27, 44)

2. Enlightened their understanding which made their heart burn (vs. 32, 45)

THE RISEN SAVIOR'S MINISTRY

I. SEEKING OUT HIS DISTRESSED SHEEP II. CORRECTING HIS ERRING SHEEP

III. FEEDING HIS HUNGRY SHEEP

I. The risen Saviors ministry in seeking out His distressed sheep

A. Good/Best News: *God is at work in saving lost sinners*

1. One-sided grace is the *only door of hope* for lost and undone world

2. It is also for them in *whom He has begun His good work* (Phil. 1:6)

B. How does God seek out His distressed sheep?

1. He draws us by inviting us to *reveal our burdens, question, needs* (15)

a. their answer reveals a lot we possibly can identify with (18-24)

• they were puzzled about the Gospel (vs. 19-21)

• they were distressed about the way things went (21)

• they were caught in grip of unbelief (vs. 21-24)

II. THE RISEN SAVIOR'S MINISTRY IN CORRECTING HIS ERRING SHEEP

A. Jesus hammers home a solid rebuke (vs. 25)

1. Unbelief is a grievous *sin*

a. even though in these men it was *an infirmity of unbelief*

b. certainly after having been told so often out of His own mouth

B. Jesus begins to correct their thinking through preaching OT truths: vs. 26-27

1. Good preaching is *expounding the Word*

- a. it is bringing forth the glories of Christ so that hungry souls are directed to look away from their own poor self to Him!

C. What did Jesus need to correct in their thinking?

1. that the Messiah would go through the cross to the crown (26)

- a. redemption wasn't just *a temporal or physical or emotional thing*
- b. redemption is a *spiritual rescue of crushing and condemning burden of guilt in God's court* (Luke 4:18-23)

III. THE RISEN SAVIOR'S MINISTRY IN FEEDING HIS HUNGRY SHEEP

A. For at least two hours, Jesus preached from *OT Scriptures* about Himself

1. Impossible to know what He all covered but it has *one theme* (vs. 26)

B. In these two hours, Spirit of God is also at work: vs. 32

1. Work of Spirit *enlightening – revealing – opening mind to Christ's glory*

- a. His work is mostly *the still small voice*
- b. His saving work will make the heart to burn within for Christ

2. Has God done that to your heart already?

- a. if so, what will be your prayer?

3. Note that it didn't take much *effort to constrain Jesus to stay* (vs. 29)

CLOSING PRAYER ... SHINE, O SHINE MY FEARS AWAY!

Lord, thine arm must be revealed,
Before I can by faith be healed;
Since I scarce can look to Thee,
Cast a gracious eye on me!
At Thy feet myself I lay,
Shine, o shine my fears away!