

FROM HEARTBREAK TO HEARTBURN Luke 24:13-35

In a world that sets us up for heartbreak and disappointment, how do we move from a place of heartbreak to a place of heartburn? The Resurrection Evening experience of Jesus and the two disillusioned, disappointed believers on the road to Emmaus demonstrates to us how Jesus sprays the Windex of His Words onto the blurry windshield of our perspective on life and clears away three problems with our perspective – three problems that prevent us from seeing the Lord working in our lives during disappointing times.

1. SOMETIMES, OUR PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE LACKS A SPIRITUAL DIMENSION.

When you contrast the words of Vv 20-24 with Acts 2:27-28; 4:28 and with Jesus' Words in Vv 25-26, the perspective is that it was part of God's good and great plan to bring the greatest good (forgiveness, eternal redemption of the individual and the cosmos) out of the greatest evil (the crucifixion of Christ). And, if God can do that, why do we doubt that God will take the bad thing in your life and bring great good out of it?

2. SOMETIMES, OUR PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE IS DRIVEN BY OUR OWN AGENDA / EXPECTATIONS.

The wistful statement of Cheopas in Vs 21 reveals a hope that Jesus would be a religious and political liberator over the Jews and the Romans. That's a limited perspective, considering that Jesus came to set up a Kingdom that would come in its fullness in the New Heavens and the New Earth. Still, when our small expectations are not met, we're disappointed. We need to release our expectations and receive whatever the Lord chooses to place in our hands, namely, the gifts of payment for our sins and eternal life in the Kingdom of God.

3. SOMETIMES, OUR PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE DOES NOT ACKNOWLEDGE THE RESURRECTION.

We say we serve a living Savior who's in the world today, but do we live like we really believe it? If the two on the road really believed it, their behavior would have been different. In Vv 30-31, their eyes were opened to see and comprehend Christ, and with spiritual comprehension came a testimony of warmed hearts and an eagerness to testify to the reality of the resurrected Christ.

So how do we move from heartbreak to heartburn? Decide to see life through God's eyes by spending time in God's Word and asking Him to help you see life through that lens. Decide to surrender your expectations. The sooner you accept that you will not get your way, the sooner your heartbreak will heal. Decide to live like you believe the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Living Lord is the reason for the hope we have!

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