

Scripture: Luke 24:13-35
Singing: 251:1-3 – 55:1-3 – 337 – 310:1-4

A. Scripture records how God's children struggled to believe the joy of Easter

1. Some had skeptical thoughts: Luke 24:11
2. Some had sad thoughts: Luke 24:11
3. Some had fearful thoughts: Luke 24:37-38
4. Some had doubtful thoughts: Luke 24:41

B. How did Jesus deal with all these different heart-conditions?

Jesus' Soul-Care to Suffering Disciples

- I. Sought out His distressed sheep II. Corrected His erring sheep
III. Fed His hungry sheep

I. The 'Risen Savior's Soul-Care: He listened to His distressed sheep

A. The Shepherd Lord at work in ministering: Luke 24:15

1. His one-sided ministry is key to the Gospel
2. His distressed disciples teetered on edge of despair (vs. 21)
 - a. they loved Jesus as a prophet (vs. 19)
 - b. they trusted Jesus as promised Redeemer (vs. 21)
 - c. they decided not to believe the 'idle tales' (vs. 22-24)

B. How did and does Jesus seek out His distressed sheep?

1. He invites you to share – He asks questions (vs. 15-17; Gen. 3:9, 11; 4:6-7)
2. He listened patiently till their whole story was done (vs. 19-24; Is. 11:2-4)

C. Today Jesus also does His soul-care work through His people

1. This work not limited to pastors: Rom. 15:14; 1 Thess 5:14; James 5:19-20

II. The second part of Jesus' soul care: *Correcting His erring sheep*

A. Jesus begins with speaking the truth in love: vs. 25-26; Eph. 4:15

B. Jesus' correction begins with *a call to repent* from their own 'wisdom'

1. Our 'mind' is the biggest problem

a. before 'new birth' we are totally blind: Eph. 4:17-23; 1 Cor. 2:14

b. after 'new birth' we begin to be renewed in our mind: Eph. 4:15-16, 23

C. Jesus' next correction is taking straight to Scripture: vs. 26-27, 44

III. The third part of Jesus' soul care: *fed His hungry sheep with the Gospel*

A. Main theme: *the Messiah only would be crowned after suffering* (26)

1. He could not deliver you as a wonder-doing-prophet only

2. He could only be your Savior by paying your penalty of death for sin

B. Fruit of Jesus' remarkable ministry

1. OT Scripture came to live while their hearts were burning

a. new understanding (enlightening) of Scripture and Jesus: 32b

b. deeper love for Jesus and His ministry: 32a

c. greater hunger to know Jesus: 28-29

d. new energy to witness about Jesus: 33-35

Reflect: How blessed you are if *God's Spirit has kindled this 'burning desire'!*

Lord, Thine arm must be revealed,
Ere [before] I can by faith be healed;
Since I scarce can look to Thee,
Cast Thou Thy gracious eye on me!
At thy blessed feet I lay,
Shine, o shine my fears away!