

All things new

Emmaus Luke 24

Jesus made all things new at the cross, but he is still making things new every single day!

Andrew Murray wrote this short sermon called “Jesus Himself” in 1832 outlining the path that the disciples traveled from sad and troubled men to a rich and deep abiding intimacy with Christ. These same disciples that had run away scared and hopeless when Christ was being crucified were now beaming with satisfaction, and full of joy. How did that happen?

How did they get there? How do we get there? And how do we stay there?

It was being with Jesus that got them to the cross and it was being with Jesus that took them deeper still.

Murray outlined these stages as:

1. The Sad and Slow of heart
2. The Burning heart
3. The Satisfied heart

Many of us believe in him. But do you know him? Do you find yourself satisfied and full or lacking and wanting for more?

Luke 24: 13-53, “That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14 and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15 While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. 16 But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17 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. 18 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?’ 19 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, 20 and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death and crucified him. 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.’” (ESV)

Luke 24:22-27, “Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 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. 24 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.’ 25 And he said to them, ‘O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?’ 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. “

Yes, there are many Christians today who have heard the message. They know that they must not only believe in a crucified Christ, but in a resurrected Christ. They try to grasp it and take it in, but it does not bring them a blessing. Why is that? Because they want to feel it instead of believing it. They want to work for it, apply their efforts to get a hold of it, instead of just humbly believing, “Christ, the living Jesus, will do everything for us.” That is the second stage. The first stage is that of ignorance, the second is that of unbelief—the doubting heart that cannot take in the wonderful truth that Jesus lives.

-Andrew Murray

Luke 28-53, “So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, 29 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. 30 When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight.

32 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?’ 33 And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, 34 saying, ‘The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!’ 35 Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread. 36 As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, ‘Peace to you!’ 37 But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. 38 And he said to them, ‘Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’” 40 And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. 41 And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish,^[b] 43 and he took it and ate before them. 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.’ 50 And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. 51 While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. 52 And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, 53 and were continually in the temple blessing God.”

We ask not only to drink the living water, we want the fountain. We ask not only to bask in the light, we want the Sun of Righteousness within our hearts. We ask not only to know You, who has touched us and warmed our hearts and blessed us, but we want to know that we have the unchangeable Jesus dwelling within our hearts and abiding with us forevermore. You know the story. Their hearts were burning as they drew near their destination, and Christ acted as though He were going farther. He put them to the test, and if they had allowed Him quietly to go on, if they had been content with the experience of the burning heart, they would have lost something infinitely better. But they were not content with it. They were not content to simply say, "Oh, what a blessed afternoon it as been! What wonderful teaching we have had!" No! The burning heart and the blessed experience just made them say, "Abide with us," and by their earnest begging they compelled Him to come in.

- Andrew Murray