

Christ In The Old Testament
“Beginning At Moses”
Luke 24:1-35

Introduction:

1. For Many Christians:
 - The Old Testament:
 - Has Either Become:
 - A Closed Book To Them:
 - Because It Seems Too Foreign:
 - For Them To Ever Understand It!
 - Or - It Has Become:
 - A Challenged Book:
 - Because It Has - As Some Think:
 - Been “Dismantled By Academia Or The Realities Of Life!”
 - Recently - A Popular Preacher:
 - Has Even Called On His Church-Members:
 - To “Unhitch” The Old Testament:
 - From Their Understanding Of Faith:
 - And To Even Re-Think Having The Bible Itself:
 - “As The Foundation Of Faith!” (Andy Stanley)
2. Well - As We Will See Tonight:
 - This Is Certainly **Not**:
 - What *Jesus* Did - Nor Is It:
 - What Jesus Encouraged His *Disciples*:
 - To Do!
 - Because - Even After His Resurrection:
 - He Pointed His Disciples:
 - **To** The Old Testament Scriptures:
 - As The Foundation Of Their Faith:
 - In Him!
 - And So - As We Begin:
 - Our Series On:
 - “Christ In The Old Testament” - We Are First:
 - Going To Go To The New Testament:
 - In Luke 24 - To See What Jesus Himself Did:
 - With The Old Testament Scriptures!
 - Let’s Read Together:
 - Luke 24:1-35! After 24:14:
 - Emmaus - Was About 7 Miles From Jerusalem:
 - Which Would Take About 7-8 Hours To Walk - So There Would Have Been:
 - Plenty Of Time For These Events To Unfold!
 - 3. The Two Disciples:
 - That We Just Read About:
 - Show Us The Real Reasons:
 - Why People Have Difficulty:
 - Understanding The Bible - And Especially:
 - The Old Testament:
 - And What It Teaches About Jesus Christ!
 - Its Not That:
 - The Scriptures Were:
 - Too Foreign For Them:
 - Because - As Jews:
 - They Had Grown Up With Them!
 - Nor Was It That:
 - The Scriptures Were:
 - Being Dismantled & Discredited:
 - As The Foundation Of Their Faith!

- Because - They Weren't!
- No - The Problems Were Matters:
 - Of Their Minds, Their Faith, And Their Hearts!
 - That Is - They Had The Same Problems:
 - That We Have:
 - When It Comes To Understanding God's Word As A Whole - And:
 - Especially The Old Testament!

4. So - Tonight - We Are Going To See:
- What Our Problems Are:
 - And What We Need:
 - To Solve Them!

* Our First Problem Is That:

1. *We Don't Recognize The Lord:*

- When He Is Revealed To Us In The Scriptures!
 - This Was The Same Problem That:
 - The Two Disciples Had:
 - As We Read In 24:16 - "But their eyes were holden that they should not know him!"
 - Those Disciples Didn't Recognize Jesus:
 - Because - "Their Eyes Were Holden!"
 - This Does Not Mean That Their Eyes:
 - Were Entirely Blinded - But Bound:
 - In Some Way - **IE:** Perhaps Like Putting Blinders On A Horse!
 - Their Condition Could Have Been:
 - Caused By Their Own Frailties!
 - Perhaps Because Of Their Great Sorrow:
 - That Is Seen In 24:17:
 - Their Heads Were Bowed Down & Their Eyes Were Downcast:
 - So They Didn't Even Look Up To See Who Joined Then On Their Journey!
 - Or - Perhaps Because Of Their Low Expectations!
 - That Is - They Didn't Expect:
 - To See The Lord Alive & Well!
 - Maybe They Forgot His Own Words To Them:
 - About His Resurrection, Or Maybe:
 - They Doubted His Own Power!
 - Their Condition Could Have Also Been:
 - Caused By Christ's Own Form!
 - In Mark 16:12 - Mark Says This About This Same Event:
 - "After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country!"
 - This Doesn't Meant That:
 - The Face & Features Of Jesus Had Changed:
 - But - That He Didn't Look The Way:
 - They Were Used To Seeing Him!
 - When Mary Saw Him:
 - In The Garden:
 - She Mistook Him As A Gardner:
 - Probably Because He Was Wearing What Gardeners Wore!
 - Perhaps With A Head Covering To Keep The Sun Off His Head!
 - When The Disciples Saw Him:
 - He May Have Looked The Same Way!
 - But Nothing Unusual Or Out Of The Ordinary!
 - And Yet - What Was True For Them:
 - Isn't It Also True For You?
 - Sometimes - As You Read Or Listen To God's Word - And Especially The Old Testament:
 - It's Hard For You To Recognize The Lord In His Word!
 - This Condition Can Be Caused:
 - By Your Own Frailty!

- Weakness Of Mind & Understanding! Or:
- This Condition Can Be Caused:
 - By His Own Form!
 - There Are Many Types And Figures And Shadows Of Christ In The Bible:
 - That We're Just Not Used To!
- So - What Do We Need?
 - The Same Thing That These Disciples Needed!
 - We Need Our Eyes:
 - To Be Opened:
 - By The Lord!
 - And So - We Need To:
 - Pray & Plea To God:
 - The Words Of Psalm 119:18:
 - "Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law!"
 - "Open My Eyes!"
 - Pray And Ask The Lord:
 - To Give You:
 - Greater Alertness:
 - To Him - So That:
 - You Will Recognize Him When You See Him:
 - In His Word!
 - He Is Able To:
 - Open Your Eyes - And:
 - Strengthen Your Mind:
 - To See Him & To Know Him! Then - Also:
 - Pray And Ask The Lord:
 - To Grant You:
 - Greater Awareness:
 - To The Forms That Jesus Takes:
 - All Throughout His Word!
- Because - Only When:
 - The Lord Opens Your Eyes:
 - Will You Be Able To See & Recognize:
 - And Really Know Him:
 - Through His Word!

* Our Second Problem Is That:

2. *We (Often) Don't Believe The Lord:*

- When He Reveals Himself To Us In The Scriptures!
 - This Was The Same Problem That:
 - The Disciples Hand:
 - In 24:25-26 - Which Jesus Exposes When He Says To Them - "O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: / Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?"
 - Those Disciples Didn't Completely Believe:
 - What God's Word Said About Jesus:
 - Because They Were:
 - "Fools!"
 - Now - When Jesus Used This Term:
 - He Was Not Using The Same Term:
 - That He Condemned In:
 - Matthew 5:22!
 - No - He Did Not Call Them "Fools":
 - Out Of Contempt For Them:
 - But Out Of His Gracious Concern! And Because:
 - Their Condition Was One:
 - Of Senselessness!
 - They Were Senseless:

- In Their Minds!
- That Is - They Didn't Understand:
 - "All That The Prophets Have Spoken" Concerning Him!
- These Men Were Jewish Men!
 - And Grew Up With The Scriptures:
 - Their Whole Lives!
 - And Yet - They Remained Ignorant To The Main Point Of Their Bibles! Him!
 - But - Even Worse:
- Their Condition Was One:
 - Of Skepticism!
 - They Were Skeptical:
 - In Their Hearts!
 - That Is - They Were:
 - "Slow Of Heart To Believe all That The Prophets Have Spoken!"
 - And Yet - What Was True For Them:
 - Is All Too Often - True For You & Me!
 - Sometimes - As You Read Or Listen To God's Word:
 - Its Hard For You To Believe What God Himself Says!
 - But This Is To Be Expected!
 - After All - Isaiah 55:8 - "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD!"
 - And Yet - No Matter How Long:
 - We've Been In Church - Or:
 - How Many Times:
 - You've Read The Bible:
 - You Still Struggle To Understand & Believe:
 - What Is Said!
 - So - What Do You Need?
 - The Same Thing That These Disciples Did!
 - You Need Your Faith:
 - To Be Increased:
 - By The Lord!
 - And So - You Need To:
 - Pray & Plea To God:
 - As One Man Did - In Mark 9:24:
 - Even With Tears - "Lord, I Believe! Help Thou Mine Unbelief!"
 - "Help My Unbelief!"
 - Pray And Ask The Lord:
 - To Increase Your Faith!
 - Because - Its Not:
 - Greater Information:
 - That You Need:
 - Because Its Already There:
 - In His Word!
 - Jesus Even Pointed This Out:
 - To Those Disciples In:
 - 24:26 - When He Asked - "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?"
 - The Old Testament:
 - Clearly Teaches About:
 - The Sufferings Of Jesus - As Well As:
 - The Exaltation Of Jesus:
 - And The Need For Both!
 - In The Book Of Isaiah:
 - There Is A Chapter That Is Known As:
 - The "Forbidden Chapter" - Because:
 - Even Today - When Isaiah Is Read In Jewish Synagogues:
 - The Rabbis Just Skip Over It Altogether!

- It Is Isaiah 53 - And It Clearly Describes:
 - The Suffering & The Exaltation:
 - Of The Messiah!
- But - In The 17th Century:
 - “Jewish Historian, Raphael Levi, Admitted That Long Ago The Rabbis Used To Read Isaiah 53 In Synagogues, But After The Chapter Caused ‘Arguments And Great Confusion’ The Rabbis Decided That The Simplest Thing Would Be To Just Take That Prophecy Out Of The Readings In Synagogues! That’s Why Today When We Read Isaiah 52, We Stop In The Middle Of The Chapter, And The Week After, We Jump Straight To Isaiah 54!”
- The Need For The Jews - And:
 - The Need For The Disciples - And:
 - The Need For Us - Is Not:
 - More *Information!* But:
- The Need For:
 - Greater Illumination!
 - So That We **Can** Understand - And:
 - So That We **Will** Believe!
 - And This Is What Jesus Himself Did:
 - In 24:27 - “And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself!”
 - Jesus Interpreted & Illuminated:
 - For His Disciples - How:
 - All Of The Pictures:
 - In The Old Testament!
 - All Of The Prophecies:
 - Of The Old Testament! Really:
 - Even The Whole Point:
 - Of The Old Testament:
 - Was To Reveal Himself:
 - So That They Might Believe!
 - So - Pray And Ask The Lord:
 - To Open Your Eyes:
 - And:
 - To Quicken & Increase:
 - Your Faith In Him:
 - Through His Word!
 - Because - Only When:
 - **He** Does This:
 - Will Your Senselessness & Skepticism:
 - Be Swept Away!

* But Then - We Have A Third Problem - And That Is:

3. We Don’t Grow In The Lord:

- When He Reveals Himself To Us In His Word!
 - We Don’t Grow In:
 - Our Attraction:
 - To The Lord - And:
 - We Don’t Grow In:
 - Our Affection:
 - For The Lord!
 - And - Though There May Be:
 - Many Reasons For This:
 - Sometimes Its Because Of:
 - Our Condition Of Apathy!
 - Like The Condition Of:
 - The Christians In The Church Of Laodicea In Revelation:
 - Who Were “Neither Cold Nor Hot!”

- But - Instead - Were “Lukewarm” To The Point That Jesus Said:
 - “I Will Spue Thee Out Of My Mouth!”
- Apathy Means:
 - When It Comes To The Means Of Fellowship With God:
 - Especially His Word & Prayer:
 - You Can Take ‘Em Or Leave ‘Em!
 - When This Is Your Approach:
 - To God - Then - Its No Wonder:
 - There’s No Growth:
 - In Your Relationship With The Lord!
 - Think Of Jacob’s Approach:
 - When The Lord Wrestled With Him:
 - During That Long Night In Peniel!
 - He Said To The Lord - “I Will Not Let Thee Go, Except Thou Bless Me!”
 - His Grip On The Lord:
 - Was Tenacious! And:
 - His Desire For Blessing:
 - Was Fervent!
- Another Reason:
 - We May Not Grow In The Lord:
 - Is Because Of:
- Our Condition Of Absence!
 - Absence From:
 - The Service & The Worship:
 - Of The Lord:
 - With His People!
- So - What Do We Need?
 - The Same Thing That These Disciples Needed!
 - You Need Your Heart:
 - To Be Stirred By The Lord!
 - And So - Pray & Plea:
 - To Him - To Do For You:
 - What He Did:
 - For His Disciples!
 - Because - After They Finally Recognized Jesus:
 - Listen To What They Said:
 - In 24:32 - “They said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?”
 - Jesus Himself:
 - Stirred Their Hearts:
 - Through His Words!
 - So That - “While He Talked To Them Of The Christ That They So Much Loved, Their Hearts Glowed With Intense Love!”
 - And Just Look:
 - What Those Stirred Hearts:
 - Gave Them!
- They Were Granted:
 - A Greater Fervency:
 - For The Lord!
 - Because - In 24:29 - When They Finally Got To Their Destination In Emmaus:
 - We Are Told That - “They constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent!”
 - “Constrain” Is A Strong Word:
 - Which Means That They Felt A Bit Like Jacob!
 - They Knew That This Man:
 - Who Spoke To Them Along The Way:
 - Had Blessed Them Through His Words!
 - And They Wanted More!

- They Weren't Ready:
 - To Let Him Go!
 - Is This True For You Tonight?
 - What Else Did They Get?
- They Were Granted:
 - A Greater Fellowship:
 - With The Lord!
 - Because Then - In 24-29b-30 - "And he went in to tarry with them. / And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them!"
 - O The Blessing For Those Disciples:
 - To Sit With Jesus:
 - Once Again!
 - To Eat With Jesus:
 - Once Again!
 - To Listen To Jesus:
 - Once Again!
 - Even As He Prayed & Blessed The Food:
 - They Were About To Eat!
- What A Transformation There Can Be:
 - In Your Life:
 - When Jesus:
 - Opens Your Heart:
 - Afresh!
 - And That Renewed:
 - Fervency For & Fellowship With:
 - The Lord - Will Cause You:
 - To Flourish & Grow!
 - So - Pray And Ask The Lord:
 - To Open Your Eyes!
 - To Increase Your Faith! And:
 - To Stir Your Heart:
 - Through His Word:
 - Until Its Burning Hot:
 - For Him!

Conclusion:

1. And - What Can Happen:
 - When You Approach The Lord:
 - And His Word:
 - In This Way?
 - Look At What Happened:
 - To His Disciples!
 - In 24:31 - We Are Told That:
 - "Their Eyes Were Opened!"
 - And At That Point:
 - "They Knew Him!"
 - Jesus Opened Their Eyes - And:
 - He Increased Their Faith!
 - But Even More:
 - In 24:33 - We See That:
 - "They rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them!"
 - So, After Walking 7-8 Hours In The Day - They Immediately:
 - Went Back The Same Way They Came!
 - To Walk Through The Night!
 - Though - I Would Imagine:
 - They Went With A Quicker Spring In Their Step!

- Because Their Renewed Fellowship With The Lord:
 - Renewed Their Fervency For The Lord:
 - And They Couldn't Wait To Tell The Others:
 - What Happened To Them!
- 2. This Is What We Need!
 - And - This Is What We Should Pray For:
 - Whenever The Word Of God Is Opened To Us:
 - Whether It's The Old Or New Testament!
 - Because - What The Lord Did For Them:
 - He Can Also Do For You!
- 2. Pray & Plea:
 - To The Lord - To:
 - Open Your Eyes!
 - Increase Your Faith! And:
 - Stir Your Heart:
 - For Him!

***Grace Baptist Church
Stephen Elmer, Pastor
4245 North 200 West
Greenfield, Indiana 46140
317-326-2362
www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace
www.growatgrace.org
pastor-elmer@hotmail.com***

*answersingenesis.org/christianity/andy-stanley-says-we-need-to-unhitch-the-old-testament-from-our-faith/

*rlsolberg.com/isaiah-53/