

The Conquest of Christ's Resurrection Over His Disciples' Unbelief

Luke 24:1-11

I. This opposition was of a different Kind (Sort)

- A. Let us notice the unbelief with which the various disciples of the Lord Jesus received the news of His resurrection
 1. The women – Matt.28:8a “*So they went quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy...*”
 2. The 2 disciples on the way to Emmaus – Lk.24:21 “*But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. 24:22 Yes, and certain women of our company, who arrived at the tomb early, astonished us. 24:23 When they did not find His body, they came to us saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said He was alive.*”
 3. The disciples (the 11 and all the rest, Lk.24:9) – Lk.24:11 “*And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they did not believe them.*”
- B. Let us notice the reason for their unbelief, their reluctance to whole-heartedly embrace the “good news” of the Lord Jesus’ resurrection
 1. The women did not remember what the Lord Jesus had spoken unto them, Lk.24:5-7
 2. The 2 disciples on the way to Emmaus were “*...slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!*” Lk.24:25
 3. Peter and John – “*...did not know the Scriptures, that He must rise again from the dead.*” Jn.20:9

II. How this opposition to the Lord Jesus’ resurrection was conquered

- A. By God’s goodness to His elect people – His loving faithfulness to continue His work of redemption in them till He comes again for them. (Phil.1:6)
- B. Consider with me God’s goodness to the various disciples in which we just observed the unbelief of the resurrection.
 1. The women – Matt.28:9 “*And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, ‘Rejoice!’...*”
 2. The 2 disciples on the way to Emmaus – Lk.24:27 “*And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. 24:31 Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him...*”

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3. The disciples (the 11 and all the rest, Lk.24:33) – Lk.24:36 “Now as they said these things, *Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, ‘Peace to you.’* 24:40 When He had said this, *He showed them His hands and His feet.* 24:45 And *He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.*”
- C. Summary: By God’s goodness to His elect people – His loving faithfulness to continue in them His work of redemption – the opposition of their unbelief was conquered and their hearts and minds established in the certainty of His resurrection.

III. Applications

- A. Can you see why it is such a great joy to be a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, one who believes in Him as their own personal Savior and Lord?!
 1. Though true believers be weak, feeble, slow of heart to believe and, at times, hardened to the truth, the Lord Jesus DOES NOT despise and reject them altogether; BUT instead, He lovingly rebukes their unbelief and patiently enables them to understand the Scriptures!
 2. There is no greater privilege and joy that can be given to a sinner than, by God’s grace, to be made to become a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, an object of His infinite, everlasting and holy love!!
- B. I want you to see that the only hope a sinner has of ever understanding experientially the things of the Spirit of God, so as to desire them and seek them, is God’s grace (I Cor.2:14 > 12; Phil.2:13)
 - God, the Holy Spirit, must come to you, making the Lord Jesus known to you and opening your heart and mind to the truth of the Lord Jesus’ actual existence, substitutionary death, burial and glorious resurrection.
 - May He be pleased to do so today!! Call upon Him today!!

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