

Study 1

Christ of the Scriptures

Luke 24:13-49

The Disciples' experience of the risen Jesus

- An empty tomb and the memory of his words (Luke 24:1-12)
- Seeing Jesus in person (Luke 24:13-49)
- What about those who came after them, who had only the claims of these disciples?

The Disciples' dependence on the Scriptures

- Flowing from Jesus' dependence on the Scriptures!
- The disciples were enabled to proclaim the Gospel of the risen Jesus whom they had personally encountered because they were enabled to see Christ in all the Scriptures (Luke 24:27, 32, 44-46)

'Christ is at the heart of the Scriptures: he is patterned, promised, and present from Genesis onward.'
(Glen Scrivener)

1. Jesus is promised.

- The seed of the woman who would crush the head of the serpent (Genesis 3).
- Abraham's offspring through whom the Lord will bring blessing to every family and nation on earth (Genesis 22, Galatians 3:16)
- The prophet who would come after Moses and would be like him (Deuteronomy 18, Acts 3:20-23)
- The son of David, through whom the throne of David would be established forever (2 Samuel 7, Matthew 21:9)
- The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 52-53, Matthew 8:16-17, 1 Peter 2:24-25)
- The child to be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5, Matthew 2:1-6)

2. Jesus is patterned

Stories full of interesting, intriguing and sometimes shocking characters, plot lines with twists and turns, sometimes with predictable and sometimes surprising outcomes, pointing beyond themselves to various aspects of God's saving work to be fulfilled and completed in Jesus.

- "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day..." (Luke 24:46)

'Third day' a pattern that recurs in the Bible.

- The *third day* of creation (life on earth) & the second '*third day*' (humanity) (Genesis 1)
- The *third day* when Isaac's life was spared by the Lord providing a sheep in his place (Genesis 22)
- The *third day* that the Lord came down onto the mountain in the cloud (Exodus 19:11)

- ‘After two days he will revive us; *on the third day* he will restore us’ (Hosea 6:1-2)
- The sign of Jonah (Matthew 12:39-40)

3. Jesus is present.

God has always been the Triune God

- The Father initiates, setting in motion His plan, and sending the Spirit and the Son.
- The Son is always the mediator between the Father and his creatures (Hebrews 1:2)
- The Spirit brings the work of the Son to completion and perfection.

Jesus - the Son - was present and active in both rescuing the Israelites from Egypt, and working out the Father’s discipline of them during their desert wanderings (Jude 5)

Types and shadows are like the Son’s fingerprints that are all over the masterpiece that he is shaping as he does his Father’s bidding to prepare everything for the day when he will step into the story in human form, with literal fingerprints.

The first question to ask of every Old Testament passage ‘Where is Christ in this passage?’

The problem of ‘Narcigesis’.

- ‘What does it say about me or tell me to do?’

Christ-focussed exegesis.

- ‘What does this tell me about Jesus... What does this mean for me/us now that we are ‘in Christ?’ Eg:
 - David is Jesus; we’re the Israelites who are rescued from their great enemy by the Messiah-King.
 - Jonah is Jesus; we’re the Ninevites who hear the message of coming judgement from a Prophet who has passed through death and resurrection.
 - Elijah is Jesus; We’re the people of Israel who need to hear the word from a prophet like Moses.

