



OPEN

PSALM 19:7-11

Open My Mind

[Supernatural Understanding]

Luke 24:45

- A. Jesus Appears to His Disciples [Post-resurrection]
[Luke 24:36-43, also recorded in Acts 1:1-3]
- B. Jesus Gives Final Instructions
[Message/Mission/Promise of the Holy Spirit]
[Luke 24:44-49, also recorded in Acts 1:3-8]

“Only when the resurrected Christ demonstrated the fulfillment of prophecy in himself did puzzled Easter onlookers become prospective Easter witnesses” (Luke 24:45–48).” [Dillon, “Previewing Luke’s Project from His Prologue,” - found in ECNT]

- C. Jesus Departs [Ascension]
[Luke 24:50-53, also recorded in Acts 1:9-14]

Study Questions/Prayer

- [1] Read Luke 24:36-43. What actions does Jesus take with his stunned disciples as he appears to them after the Resurrection that shows His amazing compassion?
- [2] Read Luke 24:44-49. Luke wrote in verse 45 that, “Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,” *What does that mean?*
- [3] Read Luke 24:50-53 and Zechariah 14:4. Can you imagine taking a walk with Jesus that ends in his ascension in the very same place the prophet Zechariah saw that he would return at His second coming. How did the disciples respond? How does this challenge us?
- [4] Pray for God to open your mind to understand the scriptures in a new and fresh way.

■ **Luke 24:36-53** As they [the disciples] were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace [Shalom] 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,⁴³ and he took it and ate before them.

■ ⁴⁴ Then he said to them [condensed version], “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.” [Luke 4:16-21]⁴⁵ **Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, [A supernatural enablement to comprehend the significance of Jesus’ statement in 24:46–47]**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 [the Holy Spirit] upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” [commissioned by God]⁵⁰ And he led them out as far as Bethany, [they walked together through the streets of Jerusalem, across the Kidron Valley, and up the western slope of the Mount of Olives, over the ridge to the eastern side - Swindoll] and lifting up his hands he blessed them. [priestly]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.

Open My Mind. . .

These verses are provided to you for reading, memorizing, and applying as you open your mind to God's perfect will. Use them as you spend time in His word learning more about who God is and what He's called us to as believers.

Isaiah 26:3 [Peace] You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

2 Corinthians 10:5 [Discipline] We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, . . .

Philippians 4:8 [Thinking Grid] Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

1 Peter 1:13 [Focus] Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:5-6 [Two Roads] For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

Colossians 3:1-2 [The Right Setting] If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

Romans 12:3 [The Right Attitude] For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

Ephesians 4:21-23 [Renewal] . . . assuming that you have heard about him [Jesus] and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, ²² to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, ²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

1 Corinthians 2:14 -16 [Discernment] ¹⁴ The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ The spiritual person judges all things but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶ "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

Philippians 2:1-11 [Unity as a Body - Same mind] So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father