

HEARTS ON FIRE!

Luke 24:13-35

INTRODUCTION: Our Lord Jesus told his disciples that the Old Testament was all about him. As we study the Old Testament to this day we still find Jesus on every page. Today we will explore together the Old Testament and get to know Jesus better through the Bible he read, the Old Testament. Jesus told even his critics to study the Old Testament and see that they were all about him. John 5:37-40. From our reading for today we see two of Jesus disciples very discouraged before a Stranger came along with them and began to explain from the Old Testament all that was written about him: Luke 24:25-27. Every aspect of our Lord's birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection was foretold in the Old Testament. Luke 24:44. There are more than three hundred specific predictions about Jesus in the Old Testament.

I. JESUS: THE SEED OF THE WOMAN

It is somewhat Ironic that the first Messianic promise was spoken to the serpent: Genesis 3:14-15; Romans 16:20; Galatians 4:4-5. Through the Seed of the woman, God not only forgives our sins, but he also brings us into his family. Romans 8:17.

II. JESUS: GOD'S PASSOVER LAMB

In the Book of Exodus we find one of the Bible's greatest types—the Passover Lamb. Exodus 12:12-13. What a strange command that each Israelite family was to kill a lamb and paint the blood on the door post and the lintel and when the death angel saw the blood no one in that house would die. John the Baptist took that type and showed that that lamb was showing what Jesus would do for all who would trust in his shed blood: John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:18-19. We need not waste our lives thinking we are orphans on this earth; we are the blood bought sons and daughters of our God through the shed blood of his Son Jesus.

III. JESUS AND THE BRONZE SERPENT

The children of Israel were sinning so relentlessly that God allowed an infestation of serpents to torment and kill them. Because there was no human remedy to these snake bites Moses turned to God in prayer and God responded to Moses' prayer: Numbers 21:8-9. All those who were bitten by the serpents had to do was look and live: John 3:14-17. It strikes us as odd that Jesus Christ would be pre-typed by a serpent but look at 2 Corinthians 5:21 and Galatians 4:13. Once again what Satan meant for our destruction, God turned into a means for our eternal life. As always we are saved by our faith—look and live!

IV. JESUS OUR FORSAKEN SAVIOR

In Psalm 22 we find a description of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection so accurately it seems the author is standing at the foot of the cross and at the open tomb. Psalm 22 was written almost one thousand years before Jesus was crucified: The exact words Jesus would say on the cross: Psalm 22:1.

The very public nature of his suffering and death: Psalm 22:7. The things that the crowd would say about Jesus: Psalm 22:8. Jesus' dehydration: Psalm 22:14. Jesus' bones out of joint and his thirst: Psalm 22:14-15. The piercing of his hands and feet: Psalm 22:16. Jesus humiliation of being naked: Psalm 22:17. The gambling away of his clothing: Psalm 22:18. Jesus' declaration of victory at the resurrection: Psalm 22:22. The global impact of his message of death and resurrection thought mankind's history: Psalm 22:27-31.

V. JESUS GOD'S SUFFERING SERVANT

The book of Isaiah is sometimes called the fifth Gospel because it describes Jesus Christ so clearly seven hundred years before he was ever born. Isaiah 7:14; Isaiah 9:1; Isaiah 9:6-7; ; Isaiah 11:1-2; Isaiah 11:3-5; Isaiah 25:7-8; Isaiah 55:3. The entire fifty-third chapter of Isaiah paints a picture so clear of what Jesus would do during his lifetime it is often difficult to believe it was written seven hundred years before his birth. Isaiah 53:5-6. To know the suffering servant of Isaiah is to know the Gospel and the love of Jesus: Romans 5:6-8.

VI. KNOWING JESUS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT REVIVES OUR FAITH!

Knowing that God revealed all that Jesus would do in the Old Testament revives our faith that what Jesus said and did during his time on earth was all part of God's plan of redemption. God's revelation from the Old Testament gives us a solid foundation for our faith in Jesus Christ. Even the very year of our Lord's birth is given in the Old Testament: Daniel 9:25-26. There is no way all these predictions were fulfilled by chance.

VII. KNOWING JESUS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT SETS OUR HEARTS ON FIRE!

The two disciples on the way to Emmaus were very discouraged until Jesus showed them from the Old Testament all that was written about him; then their hearts began to burn anew with faith! Luke 24:32. That same experience can be ours any time doubts arise in our hearts we can turn back to the Scriptures that testify of our Lord.

VIII. KNOWING JESUS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT GIVES US A LIVING HOPE!

The more we study the fulfillment of the Old Testament predictions about our Lord Jesus the more hope we have. It sets our faith on fire! Romans 15:4. As we mentioned earlier the Lord has given us over three hundred promises of our Lord's first coming in the Old Testament. Perhaps you did not know that the Lord has given us eight times more prophecies concerning Jesus' Second Coming. There are 1,845 different biblical references to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. All the promises regarding Jesus first coming were fulfilled to the letter. What do you think about his Second Coming? As you trust in the promises of salvation through personal faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior your heart will burn with joy.