

ROAD TO EMMAUS

Bible Studies



JESUS' RESURRECTION PROVES YOU MATTER TO GOD

Lesson Four: There's a Pardon Prepared for You


Road to Emmaus: Luke 24:25-35

Movie: 13:50 – 18:54

[Identify several questions to pause for deeper discussion in small groupings with a few points to share with all.]

We bristle at the thought of slavery, yet it still continues to happen around the world. Countless people today long for freedom. Yet the worst and least obvious slavery is an internal one.

1. How does Jesus define our slavery?

 **John 8:33,34** *They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin."*


2. Name some sins that "enslave us."

Too often we convince ourselves that everything is good between us and God because "basically I'm a good person." The problem is that we are not totally honest with ourselves and manufacture our own standard of what is good.

3. List several ways we minimize or rationalize our sin.

When the people of Moses' time groaned to God because of their slavery, he came to their aid because of his covenant with Abraham. Yet even after their escape, they weren't totally free. Their frequent dissatisfaction with God and his ways showed there still was a slavery deep inside. They glossed over sin and its seriousness, but God doesn't. God sets the standard, and the standard is perfection. What you do does matter to God. Each of the 10 commandments that God gave at Mt. Sinai unveils the weakness and imperfections of the sinful human heart.

4. Summarize what Jesus explained as God's expectations behind the 10 commandments and compare them with the viewpoints and attitudes today.

 **Matthew 5:21,22,27,28,43-45** *You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment ... But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell....²⁷ You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.'²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart....⁴³ You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'⁴⁴ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,⁴⁵ that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.*

Read the Accounts MOSES

The Slavery in Egypt

- Exodus 1:6-16

Moses' Call to Lead

- Exodus 3:1-10

The Passover

- Exodus 12

Crossing the Red Sea

- Exodus 14

Giving the Law - Mt Sinai

- Exodus 20:1-19

Sacrifices for sin

- Leviticus 4

What most impacts you in these accounts?

God's Covenant Promise


The Lord will raise up a prophet like Moses


- Deuteronomy 17:15-19

- (see also John 6:14; John 5:45-47)

This is not about living a good outward show, improving behavior, or satisfying rituals to please God. Then there would be no hope. Not one of us could fully satisfy God's standards or undo our sin. We can't free ourselves by our own attempts at goodness.

5. Identify how Jesus' relationship to the law while on this earth affects our relationship to God.

 **Romans 5:19** *For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.*

 **Galatians 4:3b-7** *We were in slavery under the basic principles of the world. ⁴But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, ⁵to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. ⁶Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.*

As Israel left Egypt, God made another covenant with them. If they sprinkled the blood of the Passover lamb on the doorposts of their home, they would avoid the impending death in their household. At Mt. Sinai he also gave details for their worship which included the shedding of blood.

6. Why do you suppose the blood sacrifice was such a prominent part of their worship?

7. Describe the imagery that must have come to mind in the following:

- John the Baptizer pointing out Jesus—*The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world"* (John 1:29)! (See also 1 Peter 1:9.)



Blood and Sacrifice

- Hebrews 9-10
- Acts 20:25
- Romans 3:25; 5:9
- Ephesians 1:7; 2:13
- 1 John 2:2; 4:10
- Revelation 1:5; 2:9

- Jesus at his last Passover taking the wine and saying—*"Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins"* (Matthew 26:28).

You do matter to God. People need rescue from slavery to sin, fear of death, and the power of the devil. Merely doing sacrifices and religious rituals do not satisfy God's holiness and justice. They were a shadow of the future sacrifice of Jesus which becomes the center of worship.

8. Read through the passages below and clarify how Christ's sacrifice brings freedom to your daily life.

-  Isaiah 53:4-11
-  Romans 5:1, 6-10

Forgiveness & Freedom

"In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding" (Ephesians 1:7,8).

"Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. So if the Son (Jesus) sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:35,36).