LUKE 24

He Is Not Here, but He Has Risen

an empty tomb at dawn, a stranger on the Emmaus road, bread broken at evening, and a Lord who blesses as He ascends

> *"Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"*
> LUKE 24:26

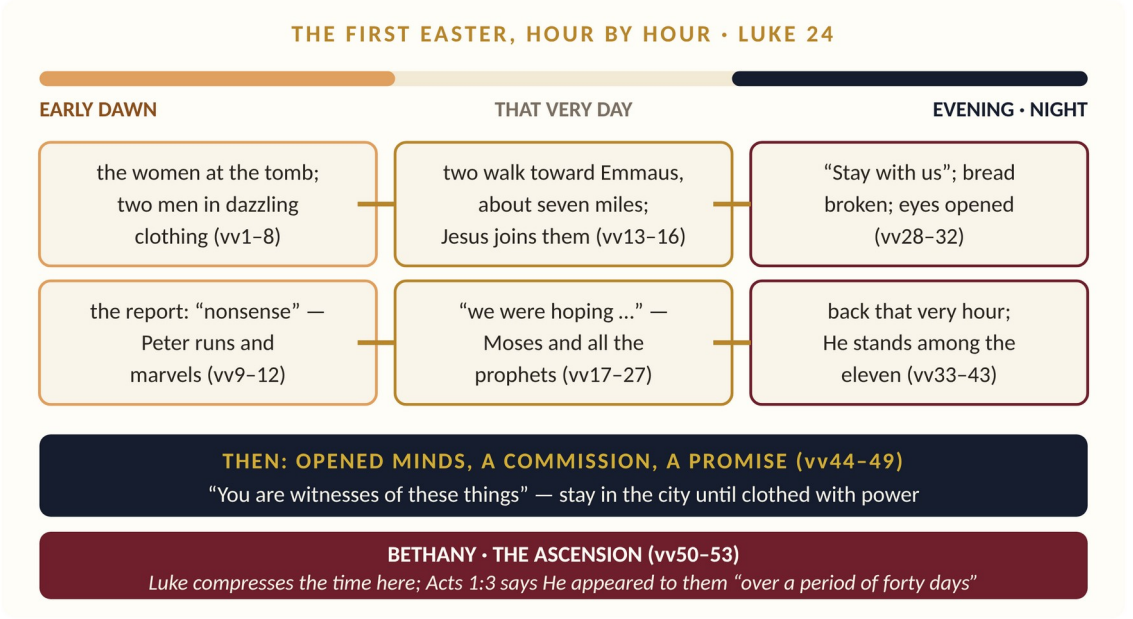
A SMITH FOR CHRIST STUDY · FOUR VOICES: GUZIK · SPROUL · SPURGEON · HENRY

Where we are in Luke

1. Luke 23 closed with the women who had followed Jesus from Galilee watching where His body was laid, going home to prepare spices, and resting on the Sabbath "according to the commandment" (23:56).

2. Only Luke gives us the long walk to Emmaus, the meal at which the two disciples knew Him, the broiled fish eaten before the eleven, and the blessing at Bethany.

3. The geography is short and walkable.



Why Seek the Living One Among the Dead?

Spices for a corpse, a stone rolled away, two men in dazzling clothing, and a report called nonsense

LUKE 24:1

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.

DAVID GUZIK

No one expected it; the stone moved for witnesses; hope began with remembering.

R.C. SPROUL

The body was gone; the apostles didn't believe it for a second.

MATTHEW HENRY

Good Christians perplex themselves with what should comfort them.

τὸν ζῶντα

TON ZŌNTA · "THE LIVING ONE"

The present participle of zaō, to live, with the article: not "a living man" but "the Living One."

Slow of Heart to Believe

Two sad disciples, a stranger on the road, and Moses and all the prophets

LUKE 24:27

Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

DAVID GUZIK

Half-anonymous followers; a heart problem more than a head problem.

R.C. SPROUL

Not stupid but slow — a moral verdict; “Jesus started with Moses”; necessity.

MATTHEW HENRY

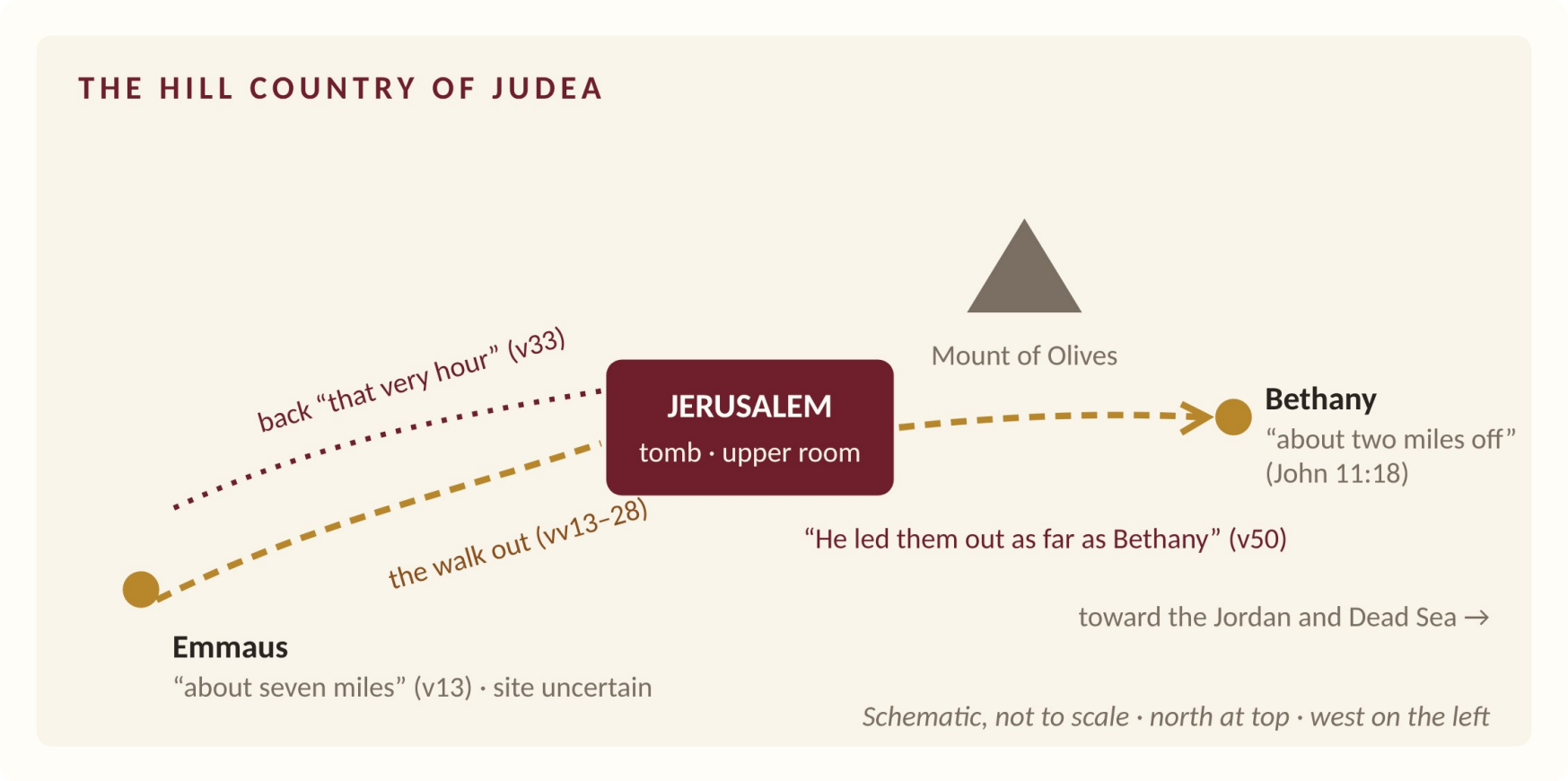
Talk of His death and rising; Christ is the best expositor of Scripture.

λυτροῦσθαι

LYTROUSTHAI · “TO REDEEM”

From lytron, a ransom price paid to free a slave or captive.

Jerusalem, Emmaus, Bethany



The two walk west to Emmaus and hurry back the same night; at the end Jesus leads the disciples east over the Mount of Olives toward Bethany.

Known in the Breaking of the Bread

"Stay with us," eyes opened at the table, hearts on fire, and a night run back to Jerusalem

LUKE 24:29

But they urged Him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is getting toward evening, and the day is now nearly over." So He went in to stay with them.

DAVID GUZIK

He would not force His company; neither knew the other's heart burned.

R.C. SPROUL

It was visceral; "Oh, that God would set fire to your soul."

C.H. SPURGEON

He stays only where pressed; carelessness, not malice, breaks communion.

MATTHEW HENRY

Invite Him and be importunate; Scripture about Christ warms the heart.

διανοίγω
DIANOIGŌ · "TO OPEN FULLY"

From dia, "through," and anoigō, "to open": to open up completely.

See My Hands and My Feet

Peace in the room, a body of flesh and bones, and broiled fish eaten before their eyes

LUKE 24:39

"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."

DAVID GUZIK

A real body of a different order; for a moment joy kept them from faith.

R.C. SPROUL

Glorified flesh and blood; "not fried fish, but broiled."

MATTHEW HENRY

The marks kept as proofs; Christ never worse than His word.

ψηλαφήσατε
PSĒLAPHĒSATE · "TOUCH"

To feel, to handle, to grope for something with the hands.

You Are Witnesses of These Things

Opened minds, a message for all nations, the promise of the Father, and a blessing from heaven

LUKE 24:49

"And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

DAVID GUZIK

Almost "I told you so"; begin where you expect opposition; power from on high.

R.C. SPROUL

All Scripture pointed to Him; the ascension is His coronation.

C.H. SPURGEON

Silence is sin; begin at home; His hands are still raised in blessing.

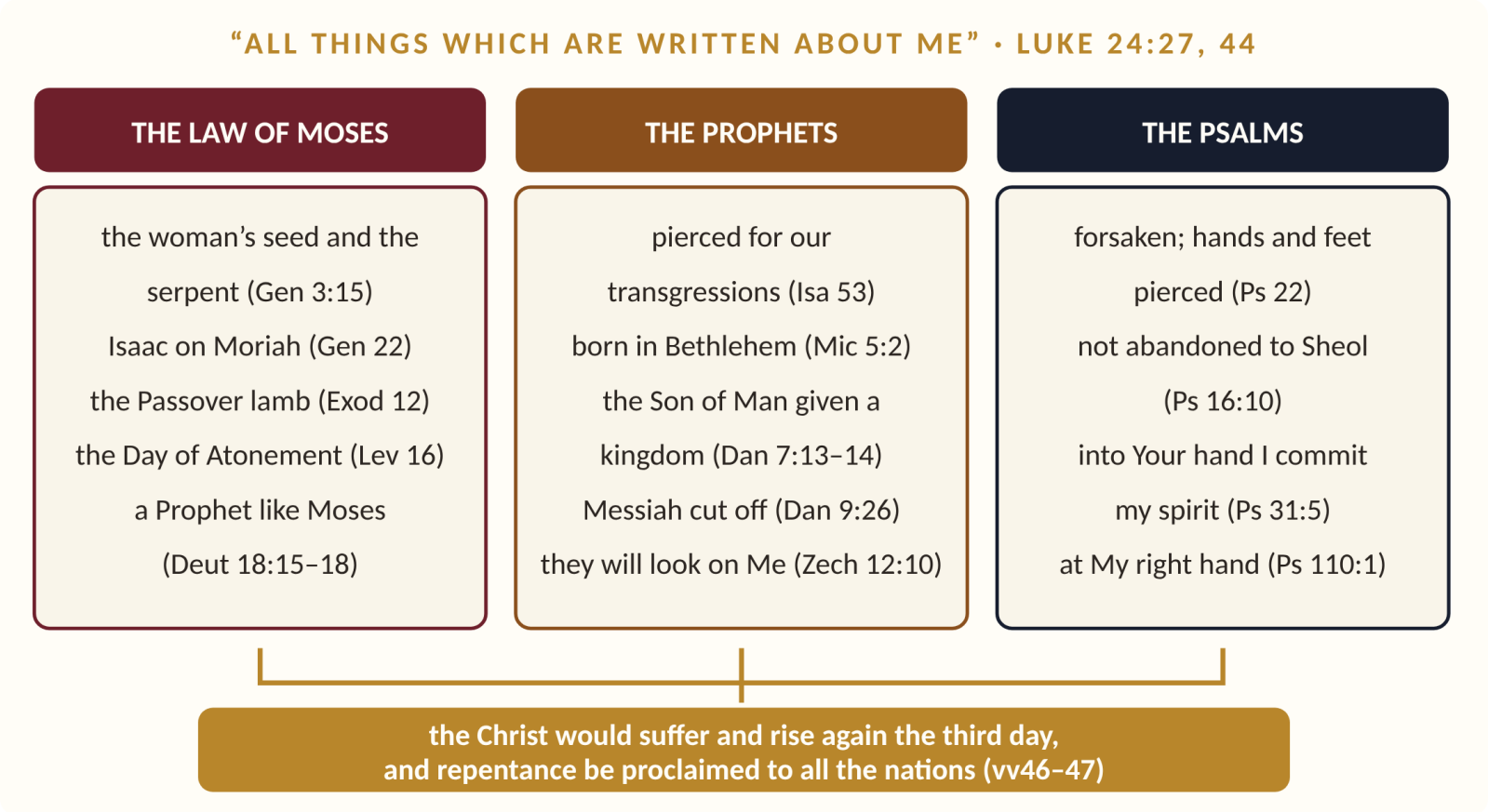
MATTHEW HENRY

Never learn above your Bible; praise is never out of season.

μάρτυρες
MARTYRES · "WITNESSES"

A martys is one who has seen and can testify, in court or anywhere.

Law, Prophets, Psalms



Jesus named all three divisions of the Hebrew Bible; each column gives a few of the passages Christians have long read as pointing to His death and rising.

What to carry from this chapter

1

They came with spices for a corpse.

Guzik: “They did not expect to find an empty tomb.”

2

The living One, not a living man.

Ton zōnta (v5) — the angels give Him a title.

3

Remember what He said.

The women’s hope began when “they remembered His words” (v8).

4

Slow of heart, not slow of mind.

Sproul: “It is not an intellectual assessment. It is a moral one.”

More to carry

5

The cross was necessary.

Dei / edei — “must” (vv7, 26, 44).

6

All the Bible is about Him.

Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms (vv27, 44).

7

He waits to be invited.

Spurgeon: “It is the way of him not to stay anywhere except he is invited and pressed.”

8

Three openings.

Dianoigō: opened eyes (v31), opened Scriptures (v32), opened minds (v45).

Talk it through

1. The women came looking for a dead body. Where am I still "seeking the living One among the dead" — expecting nothing new from Jesus?

2. The two on the road said, "we were hoping …" What hope of mine died, and how might Jesus be walking beside me in that very disappointment?

3. Jesus called them "slow of heart to believe." Is my problem with faith more in my head or in my heart right now?

4. When was the last time my heart burned while the Scriptures were opened? What would it take to press Jesus to "stay with us" in my daily reading?

5. Jesus showed His wounds and ate fish to prove He was really alive. Why does it matter to me that the resurrection was physical, not just spiritual?

CLOSING

Luke 24 begins with spices for a dead man and ends with praise for a living King. In between, Jesus walks with the discouraged, opens the Scriptures until hearts burn, shows His wounds, eats a piece of fish, and sends ordinary men to tell the nations. The last thing they saw was His hands raised in blessing — and those hands are still raised over His people until He comes again.

Teaching the Word. Watching the Times. — Smith For Christ

Full Deep Dive, O·I·A study and reflection journal: see the Luke study page.