

The three openings in Luke 24

1 the opening of the Scriptures, ([Luke 24:25-27](#)),

The first opening takes place in the middle of the story ([Luke 24:25-27](#)), but the

phrase itself occurs a bit later, in verse 32, as they reflected on what Christ had

said to them. “Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us along

the way, and while he opened the Scriptures?”

2 the opening of the eyes ([Luke 24:31](#).)

The second opening in [Luke 24:31](#) is a consequence of the first.

Jesus had taught them on the way. And then, as He sat with them and broke

bread with them in their home, “**their eyes were opened, and they recognized him.**”

This is as true today as it was then. If you will open the Scriptures, God will

open your eyes by means of His Holy Spirit so you will recognize Jesus. Jesus

shines brighter in our darkness. Jesus shines brighter in our darkness

3 the opening of the understanding ([Luke 24:45](#)).

The third opening is found at the very end of the story after Cleopas and Mary

had returned to Jerusalem and had told the other disciples of Christ’s

appearance to them. We are told that as they were speaking Jesus appeared

again in their midst and then “opened...their understanding, that they might

understand the scriptures” It was the opening of their minds so that they might

begin to understand in some depth the things that were written in the Old

Testament concerning Him.

These three openings are three great blessings that we should all desire of the

resurrected Lord. Because as the Bible is opened, we see the Lord Jesus Christ as He is interpreted to us by the divine operation of the Holy Spirit, we will never be the same again. The Word itself will be different. It will not be a mystery. It will have a theme. It will make sense. And what is more, it will be a great blessing. For it will be the place where we meet with Jesus Who died for us and Who now lives to be known by His followers.

Each of these three openings had an important consequence in their lives. And these three results should also occur for us when our Bibles, eyes, and minds are opened. When Jesus opened the Scriptures we are told that their hearts burned within them. They were saying, "Isn't this exciting? Isn't it thrilling?" And, of course, the opening of the Scriptures should be equally exciting for all who study them today. If this is not true in your life, you are not really opening the Scriptures as you ought.

when Jesus opened the eyes of Cleopas and his companion to recognize Him, they had arrived in Emmaus toward the end of the day. They were tired. It was dark. The way back to Jerusalem was difficult, long, and dangerous. Nevertheless, they experienced an immediate desire to tell others about the risen Lord. And thus, without any great deliberation, they set out for Jerusalem the same night and there told their story.

Perception of the risen Christ always leads to such action. There is always a testimony.

Finally, as Jesus opened their minds to understand the Scriptures they doubtless entered into a phase of their life in which they understood both the Scriptures and the Lord Himself differently.

Before, much of the Word of God was a mystery. Hereafter, when they would return to the book of Genesis and read about the seed of the woman who would bruise the serpent's head, they would know that the seed was Jesus.

And thus, Genesis would be new for them. And they would understand the Lord Himself better.

They would read a bit further and find that He is not only the seed of the woman, He is the seed of Abraham also, the one who was to bring blessings to the nations. They would recognize the fulfillment of this prophecy in the subsequent proclamation of the gospel to the Gentiles. Cleopas and his companion would see Jesus prefigured in the life of Joseph.

In Exodus He would be perceived as the Passover lamb. In Numbers He is the rock in the wilderness from Whom we all receive the water of life freely. He is also the cloud Who guides His people and covers them with His protection, and so on.