




Disappointed With God
Luke 24:13-35





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Have you ever been disappointed with God?

- **Habakkuk 1:2 NLT** How long, O Lord, must I call for help? But you do not listen! “Violence is everywhere!” I cry, but you do not come to save.”
- In **Job 29**, Job talked about his life before the events God brought into his life
 - **Vs. 2-3** “I long for the years gone by when God took care of me, 3 when he lit up the way before me and I walked safely through the darkness....”

Have you ever been disappointed with God?

- **Job 30** Warren Wiersbe calls it Job's complaint chapter
 - "I have no respect" (**Job 30:1-15**)
 - "I have no blessing" (**Job 30:16-23**)
 - "I have no help" (**Job 30:24-25**)
 - "I have no future" (**Job 30:26-28**)
 - "I have no ministry" (**Job 30:29-31**)

Have you ever been disappointed with God?

- There are two great questions when we are disappointed with God
- Why – Why did my child die, marriage fail, why do bad things happen to good/innocent people?
 - **Psalms 73:1-3 NIV** 1 Surely God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. 2 But as for me, my feet had almost slipped; I had nearly lost my foothold. 3 For I envied the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Have you ever been disappointed with God?

- Where = Where are or where were you God?
 - **Job 23:3-4 NLT** 3 If only I knew where to find God, I would go to his court. 4 I would lay out my case and present my arguments.
 - **Mark 25:34 NLT** “My God, my God, why have you abandoned/forsaken me?”
- Even on the greatest day in the story of mankind when Jesus arose from the grave, believers were disappointed

Luke 24:13-24 NIV

- 13 Now that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. 14 They were talking with each other about everything that had happened. 15 As they talked and discussed these things with each other, Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; 16 but they were kept from recognizing him.

Luke 24:13-24 NIV

- 17 He asked them, “What are you discussing together as you walk along?” They stood still, their faces downcast. 18 One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, “Are you the only one visiting Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” 19 “What things?” he asked. “About Jesus of Nazareth,” they replied. “He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people.

Luke 24:13-24 NIV

- 20 The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; 21 but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. 22 In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning 23 but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive

Luke 24:13-24 NIV

- 24 Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see Jesus.”
 - **Vs. 21** tells you all you need to know about their disappointment
 - We had hoped and it did not turn out like we thought or planned

Luke 24:13-24 NIV

- We had hoped and it did not turn out like we thought or planned
 - Jesus was not supposed to die but rule
 - Why God? Where were you God? Why did you forsake Jesus on that cross? Makes no sense to me.
 - Just another religious disappointment, we're out of here

Luke 24:13-24 NIV

- Vs. 23 They did not see Jesus, It was a doubting Thomas moment
 - Disappointment can make you stubborn
 - They were so hurt, so crushed that even the testimonies of those they had grown close to did not matter

Luke 24:13-24 NIV

- It sometimes takes time to work through deep, life altering disappointments
 - To get control of your emotions, thoughts and desires
 - To be able to get into a place where you can hear and listen to that still small voice of God

Luke 24:13-24 NIV

- Please do not judge these men
 - If you have walked in the depths of disappointment this deep, you would understand
 - Jesus understands these men need someone or something to believe in
 - That something is God's Word and the someone is the risen Messiah

Luke 24:25-35 NIV

- 25 He said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:25-35 NIV

- 28 As they approached the village to which they were going, Jesus continued on as if he were going farther. 29 But they urged him strongly, “Stay with us, for it is nearly evening; the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. 30 When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them.

Luke 24:25-35 NIV

- 31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight. 32 They asked each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?” 33 They got up and returned at once to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven and those with them, assembled together 34 and saying, “It is true! The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.”

Luke 24:25-35 NIV

- 35 Then the two told what had happened on the way, and how Jesus was recognized by them when he broke the bread.
- **Psalms 34:18 NLT** The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.
 - Even when we don't know it, can't sense it or at times, even wants it

Luke 24:25-35 NIV

- Warren Wiersbe calls this, “The greatest Teacher explaining the greatest themes from the greatest Book bringing the greatest blessing to these men’s lives.”

Luke 24:25-35 NIV

- Jesus is not being harsh here
 - Foolish means slow to comprehend something that should be obvious, failure to engage the mind fully, implying that someone should know better
 - Foolishness here is coupled with slowness of heart
 - In Jewish mind the heart was the center of a person's will, emotions and decision making

Luke 24:25-35 NIV

- Jesus is saying they are struggling but did not need to be if they had just opened themselves up to the complete teachings of the prophets
- Jesus was not always going to appear to His disciples physically and they needed to trust Biblical sight verses physical sight

Luke 24:25-35 NIV

- In other words, they needed to let God's Word speak to them
 - Physical sight, even when miracles are involved, diminishes over time and needs to be refreshed
 - Biblical faith is always just thought, a verse away

Biblical Sight

- I wonder if Jesus reminded them in **Genesis 3**, the heel of the Deliverer would be struck/wounded/crushed
- Or in **Genesis 22** when Abraham was called to sacrifice how only, unique son with Abraham saying, “The Lord would provide His own sacrifice.”
- **Psalms 16:10** where God would not abandon His anointed one in the grave

Biblical Sight

- **Isaiah 53** where the suffering of the Messiah and the resurrection of the Messiah is clear
- The Passover, Levitical sacrifices, Day of Atonement
- **Psalms 22 and 69**
- The key to understanding scripture is to see Jesus Christ all throughout the Bible

Biblical Sight

- These men had been won by the Word of God, they didn't even know who this person was
 - Their first words after recognizing Jesus was, "Did not our hearts burn within us as He opened the Scriptures to us."
- Their hearts (understanding, emotions, mind) was set on fire, not by seeing Jesus, but hearing Him in Scripture
- In other words, they were excited

Biblical Sight

- How long has it been since you burned with excitement about something revealed to you through Scripture?
- Jesus opened the Scriptures to them, and then he opened their eyes
- He still does this today if we are open, teachable and receptive
- Jesus promised the Holy Spirit would lead us to all or complete truth in **John 16:13**

Biblical Sight

- The breaking of bread here is not the Lord's Supper but refers to just a regular meal
 - We must learn to see Jesus in the everyday, common things of life
 - **Deuteronomy 6:7 NIV** Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Biblical Sight

- Mountaintop experiences come rarely, and we are blessed if we are privileged to encounter one
- But seeing Jesus in the everyday provides a consistency in our lives that will take us through every disappointment
- Receiving Biblical truth and walking with the Savior will lead to a burning heart

Thoughts

- Sometimes God can be an easy target for our pain and disappointment because we know He could have prevented it
 - **1st Corinthians 13:12 NLT** 12 Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete

Thoughts

- **Ecclesiastes 7:13-14 NIV** 13 Consider what God has done: Who can straighten what he has made crooked? 14 When times are good, happy; but when times are bad, consider this: God has made the one as well as the other.
 - This speaks of God's sovereignty

Thoughts

- Sometimes God is silent because I'm not listening
 - The disciples missed the greatest day in mankind's story because they did not listen carefully to all of Jesus' Words
 - The disciples on the road to Emmaus finally listened to God's Word and their hearts were filled

Thoughts

- **Mark 11:22 NLT** Then Jesus said to the disciples, “Have faith in God.”
 - Not have faith in the outcome of your prayers
 - Not faith in the circumstances or even in the process
 - Have faith in **GOD!**

Thoughts

- **Mark 11:22 NLT** Then Jesus said to the disciples, “Have faith in God.
 - I can trust what God decided to do or allow
 - I can trust that God will always do what is best, even if I cannot see it or come close to understanding it

Thoughts

- **2nd Corinthians 5:7 NIV** For we live by faith and not by sight
 - Even if the Lord chooses to be silent, I should trust that He is working to bring something good out of every disappointment

Thoughts

- **Job 40:4 NLT** “I am nothing—how could I ever find the answers? I will cover my mouth with my hand.
 - Job is saying, “You are Sovereign, I am not.”
 - You are wise, I am not
 - You are the Father, I am the child
 - You are my Shepherd, I am Your sheep
 - I will trust and follow the plans you have for my life

Thoughts

- God never wastes pain
- When nothing else makes sense, it is God saying, “I am God. Trust Me!”
- **Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV** Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight

Thoughts

- Give your hurt/disappointment to the Lord and allow Him to minister to your heart
- Grow in your understanding and trust of God's sovereignty
 - When you get God's sovereignty straight in your heart, everything straightens from there



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“Have faith in God.”