

Jesus Reveals What the Old Testament says about
Him on the road to Emmaus
A detailed review based on Luke 24, about 12 minutes

Participants (*No need to memorize lines; the aim is to relive sacred events, not to perform*)

Cleopas

Mary (*of Bethany*)

Lazarus

Prompter Shouts a brief phrase, and Echoes repeat it.

Echoes All who want to take part repeat Prompter's words; Echoes need no script.

Lazarus Cleopas, welcome to our home here in Bethany.
Jesus joined you and your companion on the road to Emmaus,
after he had risen from the dead, some time ago.
Tell my sister Mary and me about that.

Cleopas With joy, Lazarus. At first, we did not recognize Jesus,
but our hearts burned within us when he told how Moses,
the Psalms and the prophets spoke of him.

Prompter & Echoes The entire Old Testament!

Cleopas In the beginning God said in Genesis,
"Let us make man in our image." Notice the word "us."
Our one God is three Persons. Jesus, along with God the Father
and God the Holy Spirit, created our world.

Lazarus Tell me, Cleopas, did Eden's Tree of Life point to Jesus,
who is the Vine of which we are branches?

Cleopas Yes, Lazarus. Scripture also calls Christ the Final Adam,
a comparison by contrast.

Mary Adam's disobedience brought death to all;
Christ's obedience brings life to all believers.
Right, Lazarus?

Lazarus Yes, Mary. God told the serpent that tempted Eve
that he would wound the heel of the seed of the woman,
but the seed of the woman would crush the serpent's head.

Mary Jesus was the only man born of a virgin; he was the seed of the woman,
and the rest of that prophecy came true at the cross.

Prompter & Echoes Jesus, the serpent slayer!

Cleopas Adam and Eve tried to hide their shame with fig leaves,
but only the blood of an innocent victim covers sin,
so God clothed them in animal skins, entailing shed blood.
This red thread of blood sacrifice runs throughout the Old Testament.

Mary God rejected Cain's offering of grain, Cleopas, because it had no blood; but God was pleased with Abel's offering from his flock. Cain burned with envy against his brother Abel, and murdered him.

Cleopas Yes. Later, Noah's ark, like Jesus' resurrection body, gave refuge to the faithful; we will rise in Christ as part of his eternal Body, which is our ark; it will carry us to glory.

Mary Later, God promised Abraham to bless all nations through a descendant. Jesus is God's blessing.

Prompter & Echoes For all peoples!

Lazarus God told Abraham to sacrifice his only son and heir Isaac whom Abraham loved dearly, but at the last moment God provided a sheep as a substitute, just as Jesus the Lamb of God died in our place.

Cleopas Isaac also pictured Jesus; his bride Rebecca came from afar by faith, just as the Holy Spirit brings those who are far off to Christ.

Mary Isaac's son Jacob wrestled with the Angel of the Lord, to get his blessing. Was it Jesus that he wrestled with, Cleopas?

Cleopas Yes, Mary. In Hebrew *Angel of the Lord* means *Messenger of the Lord*. Among the three Persons who are God, only the Son has the role of taking on flesh, not the Father nor the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the Angel of the Lord, when identified as God and not a mere angel, was God's supreme messenger Jesus.

Prompter & Echoes Jesus, the living Word of God!

Lazarus So it was Christ who spoke to Hagar, Moses and others, and whom Gideon saw working wonders. He also protected Daniel's friends from the flames.

Cleopas Jesus said all the Scriptures spoke of him, Lazarus, so we are only scratching the surface. Before Jacob died, he prophesied that the everlasting ruler of God's people would come from the tribe of Judah.

Prompter & Echoes That was Jesus!

Cleopas Jacob's son Joseph pictured Christ in many ways: loved above all others by his father, rejected and sold by his brothers, falsely accused and condemned although innocent, raised from a dungeon to sit at the sovereign's right hand, interceded for his brothers and provided what they needed to live.

Prompter & Echoes Jesus, our provider!

Lazarus Did Moses picture Christ in several ways also, Cleopas?

- Cleopas Yes, Lazarus.
Moses was Christ's major counterpart in the Old Testament;
Moses did many things under the temporary, earthly covenant of Law
that paralleled Jesus' works under the new, heavenly covenant of grace.
- Mary God spared baby Moses, as he did baby Jesus,
when an evil king gave orders to kill the babies.
- Cleopas Yes, and Moses left a position of power and wealth
to join his own people, although they were slaves.
Moses was zealous for justice, a caring shepherd,
and God's spokesman to establish his covenant.
- Lazarus The Covenant of Law came by Moses;
the Covenant of Grace comes by Jesus.
Moses said another prophet like him would arrive,
whom God's people would heed.
- Mary Also, Moses' first miracle was to turn water to blood, a curse.
But Jesus' first miracle was to turn water to wine, a blessing.
- Cleopas The faithful smeared the Passover Lamb's blood by their doors,
so the death Angel would pass over when he saw the blood.
He killed the firstborn sons throughout Egypt
where there was no blood.
- Prompter & Echoes Jesus, our life-saving Passover lamb!
- Mary Then Moses led God's people out of slavery and death into freedom,
just as Christ leads us out of sin and death into freedom and life!
- Lazarus A pillar of fire by night and of cloud by day led God's people to safety;
Jesus is our guiding light, showing our only way to eternal freedom.
- Prompter & Echoes Light of the World!
- Mary God had both Moses and Christ give a form of life-saving bread.
Moses gave manna from heaven for the starving Israelites,
Christ gives his own flesh for believers.
- Cleopas Moses lifted up a serpent on a pole in the desert.
Those whom snakes had bitten saw it and God healed them.
Jesus became sin for us and hung from a cross for us to see
and have our sin cleansed. We all need his healing,
as the old serpent has bitten all of us.
- Mary Moses also interceded for his people
when they deserved death, Cleopas.
- Cleopas Yes. The tabernacle and its furnishings,
sacrifices and ceremonies all pointed to Jesus.
It would take hours to describe them.

- Lazarus Yom Kippur, the annual Day of Atonement, pictures Jesus, our High Priest in several ways. Israel's High Priest took sacrificial blood into God's presence in the Most Holy Place to atone for the sins of the people; this foretold how Jesus would ascend to God on high, to intercede for sinners, having shed his blood for us.
- Prompter & Echoes Jesus, our perfect High Priest!
- Cleopas The golden Ark of the Covenant in the most Most Holy Place pictured Jesus. It held God's Law in its heart, the stone tablets with the Ten Commandments. That Ark of the Covenant was the Old Testament's "Emmanuel," which means *God with us*. The glory of God shone visibly over it, just as Jesus dwells among men now, and shines in our hearts.
- Lazarus The Philistines believed the ark was the God of Israel. They gloated when they captured it and put it Dagon's temple. Dagon the fish god symbolized Satan; Dagon's statue could not keep the ark in Dagon's den. On the third day Dagon fell and his head broke off, just as Jesus rose on the third day, breaking Satan's power.
- Cleopas Yes. God plagued the Philistines, and they sent the ark away on a cart; it had no driver, but God led them back to the ark's home.
- Mary The fish that God made to swallow Jonah could not hold him in its belly. It was like the Philistine god Dagon: on the third day, it vomited Jonah up alive. This all foresaw Jesus dying and rising on the third day.
- Cleopas The exploits of Joshua the conqueror, and of Israel's judges, prefigured Jesus' work, such as Gideon's strength through weakness, Samuel's discernment, and Samson defeating God's enemies by his own death.
- Prompter & Echoes Jesus, God's warrior!
- Lazarus Later, did some Old Testament kings picture Christ, Cleopas?
- Cleopas Yes Lazarus, especially David. People often called Jesus "son of David." Both were born in Bethlehem; both were God's anointed, and both slew a giant. Jesus' giant was the mighty archangel Satan, who had fallen from heaven.
- Lazarus David and Jesus were both falsely treated as criminals and persecuted; friends turned against them, both loved God's house passionately; both brought peace, unity, justice and safety from enemies' attacks.
- Prompter & Echoes Jesus, King of Kings!

- Mary David's Psalms foretold his crucifixion vividly,
and also his resurrection.
- Cleopas For sure, Mary!
Also, God empowered both Elijah and Elisha
to do marvels that Jesus would do in a similar but greater way:
healing lepers, raising the dead, providing food miraculously
and resisting tyrants.
- Lazarus Isaiah foretold in detail Jesus' willing death in the place of us sinners.
- Mary Jeremiah wept over Jerusalem, as Jesus did.
- Cleopas Ezekiel foresaw a Prince, a son of David, who would make
an everlasting covenant of peace with God's people,
dwell among them, and be their God.
- Lazarus Daniel foretold the time of Messiah's coming,
and that he would be cut off for the sake of his people.
- Mary Job knew he would see his Redeemer someday.
My heart's greatest desire is to see Jesus face to face in glory.
- Prompter & Echoes Jesus, heaven's greatest joy!