

THE FINDINGS OF CHRIST WHO WASN'T LOST

TEXT: *Luke 2:45-46a:*

⁴⁵ And when they found Him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking Him.

^{46a} And it came to pass, that after three days they found Him in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors,

Mark 1:37: And when they had found Him, they said unto Him, All men seek for Thee.

INTRODUCTION:

The first ones to SEEK and FIND CHRIST were the wisemen from the East. They found Him in a manger. It was the most unlikely place in all the world for One so great to be heralded by angels, and by stars to be found. But there were others who found Him in the most unlikely places, also. I'm thinking of the disciples who found Him in a solitary place, in prayer; or, the thief who found Him nailed to a Cross beside himself, dying in shame and being mocked and ridiculed. This is one of the great wonders of our Lord Who prophesied in Isaiah.

Isaiah 65:1: I AM sought of them that asked not for Me; I AM found of them that sought Me not: I said, Behold Me, behold Me, unto a nation that was not called by My Name.

It is not where or how we have found Him, Who is not lost, that counts. It is the fact that we have found Him as our Lord and Saviour. Until we have found Him, we are the one's that are lost, and NOT HE.

Until we have found Him, we are the one's that are lost.



Do you recall the two men walking on the road to Emmaus? It was a very common highway, free to everyone, from the beggar to the emperor. Their hearts were heavy and their steps weary as they went home with disappointed hearts. When, suddenly, there appears a stranger to them, and asked them:

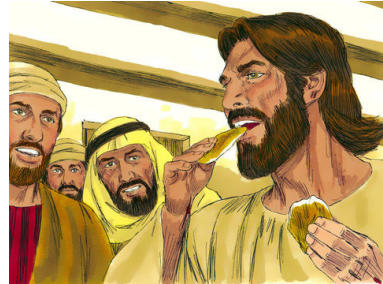
Luke 24:17: And He [Jesus] said unto them, What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad?

Luke 24:29-31:

29 But they constrained Him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And He went in to tarry with them.

30 And it came to pass, as He sat at meat with them, He took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew Him; and He vanished out of their sight.



They found Him in the breaking of the Bread and the giving of thanks to God. They recaptured that first love, and the shadows fled away as Jesus revealed Himself unto them by expounding unto them in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.

Luke 24:27: And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

Isaiah 55:5-6:

5 Behold, thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run unto thee because of the LORD thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for He hath glorified thee.

6 Seek ye the LORD while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near:

ONE SENTENCE from the lips of the Son of God in regard to the future state has forever settled it in my mind.

John 8:21b: and ye shall seek Me, and shall die in your sins: wither I go, ye cannot come.

If a man has not given up his drunkenness, his profanity, his licentiousness, his covetousness, Heaven would be Hell to him. Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people. What would a man do in Heaven who cannot

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bear to be in the society of the pure and holy down here?

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