

GRASPING GOD'S THOUGHTS AND WAYS

LUKE 24:1-12

DIFFERENT CULTURES

Communications between individuals from different cultures can easily be misunderstood.

The Chinese ambassador to France, welcomed high government officials to his banquet with these words, “Thank you honored guests for coming to our simple and humble meal.”

Proved to be a great offense to his French chef.

ISAIAH 55

God's culture is from another world

8 “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD.

**9 “For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth,
So are My ways higher than your ways
And My thoughts than your thoughts.”**

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. 2 And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, 3 but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

LUKE 24b

4 While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing;
5 and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, “**Why do you seek the living ~~One~~ among the dead?**
6 He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee,

Luke 23:34

But Jesus was saying, “**Father**, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots, dividing up His garments among themselves.

PSALMS 51

³ For I know my transgressions,
And my sin is ever before me.

⁴ **Against You, You only**, I have sinned
And done what is evil in Your sight,
So that You are **justified** when You speak
And blameless when You judge.

⁴ Against Thee, Thee only, I have sinned, And
done the evil thing in Thine eyes, So that
Thou art **righteous** (right JB) in Thy words,
Thou art pure in Thy judging. (YLT, Jewish Bible)

LUKE 24c

6 He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, 7 saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.” 8 And they remembered His words, 9 and returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to

LUKE 24d

10 Now they were Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James; also the other women with them were telling these things to the apostles. 11 But **these words appeared to them as nonsense**, and they would not believe them. 12 **But Peter** got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he ***saw the linen wrappings only**; and he went away to his home, **marveling** at what had happened.

JOHN 20

³ So Peter and the other disciple went forth, and they were going to the tomb.

⁴ The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first; ⁵ and stooping and looking in, he *saw the linen wrappings lying *there*; but he did not go in. ⁶ And so Simon Peter also *came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he *saw the linen wrappings lying *there*,

JOHN 20

7 and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but **rolled up in a place by itself.** **8** So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and **he saw and believed.** **9** For as yet they did not **understand** the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. **10** So the disciples went away again to their own homes.

JOHN 11

21 Martha then said to Jesus, “ Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. **22** Even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You.” **23** Jesus *said to her, **“Your brother will rise again.”**

24 Martha *said to Him, “ I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”

JOHN 11b

²⁵ Jesus said to her, “ **I am the resurrection and the life**; he who believes in Me **will live even** if he dies,
²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me **will never** die. Do you believe this?” ²⁷ She *said to Him, “Yes, Lord; I have believed that **You are the Christ**, the Son of God, *even* He who comes into the world.”

LUKE 1

²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And coming in, he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord *is* with you."
²⁹ But she was very perplexed at *this* statement, and kept pondering **what kind of salutation** this was.

PONDER THE UNEXPECTED

Matt.9:2 And they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, “Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven.”

COMPREHENDING GOD'S THOUGHTS AND GOD'S WAYS

- **Transforming the Life of our Church.**
- **The primary issue is not..**
 - **WHAT** you did, but
 - **WHY** you did it!
 - **The source for Sins, is from the heart**
- **The primary aspect of life is spiritual**

1 SAMUEL 16

7 But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God *sees* not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

MARK 7

²⁰ And He was saying, “ That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries,...

²³ All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man.”