

Beyond Our Comprehension

Script - 1 Cor. 2:9

- A. According to the Bible, there are many things that we as humans, with our finite perspective, cannot comprehend (1 Cor. 2:9; Isa. 55:8-9; Isa. 11:6-7; Job 37:5; Rom. 11:33; Job 11:7-8). It is because our point of reference is different than God's.
- B. Although the disciples were told in advance 11 different times that Jesus would die and be resurrected they seem to be unable to comprehend His meaning, or believe others when they heard the news that he was resurrected (Mt. 28:1-8, 16; Mk. 16:1-14; Lk. 24:1-11; Jn. 20:9-10). Why was that?
1. They were not listening very well. This happens to all of us and there are times when we do not listen very well.
 2. It was not what they wanted to believe. Lk. 24:21 tells of the popular delusions that were floating around in their day and apparently the disciples seem to have bought into it.
 3. They were incapable of comprehending some of the things that Jesus revealed to them. There are things that are beyond our comprehension according to God's word. This might be true if the disciples had never seen Jesus call the dead back to life, but they personally witnessed three people resurrected back to life by Jesus. The son of the widow of Nain (Lk. 7:11-17); Lazarus (Jn. 11); and Jairus' daughter (Mk. 5:21-43).
 4. When Jesus died it was not what they were used to experiencing from him. They walked with, talked with, ate with, and watched Him work miracles. He had the ability to overcome, and avoid the traps and pitfalls that others seem to always be laying for him. It was as if He somehow wanted it to happen to him; as if He was a willing participant, somehow complicit in the planning and the carrying out of his own demise. They recognized his compassion and his power that was displayed on a daily basis. The virtue and purity that flowed from deep within him could not be contained in this humble rabbi that seemed to have divinity clothed in human flesh.
- C. How can we avoid falling into the same pitfalls that seem to plague the disciples and overshadow the hearts and minds of his closest followers?
1. Ask for the Holy Spirit to enlighten our minds and expand our comprehension (Jn. 20:19-22).
 2. Be so familiar with what the Bible says will happen that it becomes second nature to react. It takes about 3 weeks to form something into a habit. Begin to form habit patterns now that are appropriate with what God would have us to be. What God would have us to do.
 3. To celebrate the resurrection of Jesus (Easter) and not be renewed inside by God's power is an oxymoron. Easter is not just a special holy day in the Christian faith, but it is when the Savior came back to life and gained the victory over sin and death for all of us. He wants us to do the same in His name. Overcome obstacles, step out in faith to believe when we face impossible circumstances and this is what the disciples did (Acts. 5:28). Share with others the good news that there is power and redemption in Jesus name (Isa. 40:28-31). We are his chosen vessels like Saul of Tarsus to share with others about Jesus (Acts 9:15; 2 Cor. 4:7-8; Eph. 3:20-21).