

### **Week 39 Day 1**

**Readings:** Luke 23:44-49; Titus 1:10-16; Psalm 76; Proverbs 18:19-24; Ezekiel 16.

**Focus Verse:** "A brother offended is harder to win than a strong city, and contentions are like the bars of a castle." (Proverbs 18:19)

**Key Concept:** "They Profess to Know God, But in Works They Deny Him" (Titus 1:16). Paul had left Titus in Crete, and now he warns him about some of the hypocritical people he would have to deal with there. His descriptions of some of those people could be accurately applied to many today. Many people profess to know God--perhaps claiming to be Christians--while their works contradict their words. They might fool other people. They might even deceive themselves. But they can never fool God. He sees all.

Hypocrites were a problem in Crete nearly 2000 years ago. The sad reality is that hypocrisy is a problem that we must face today, too.

**Action:** If you claim to be a Christian, walk the way you talk!

### **Week 39 Day 2**

**Readings:** Luke 23:50-56; Titus 2:1-10; Psalm 77; Proverbs 19:1-5; Ezekiel 17-18.

**Focus Verse:** "'Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?' says the Lord God, 'and not that he should turn from his ways and live?'" (Ezekiel 18:23)

**Key Concept:** Accountability and Repentance (Ezekiel 18). Two important concepts are stressed in this chapter. God affirms that we are individually accountable before Him. We are not condemned for inherited depravity, but for personal disobedience. He also emphasizes the importance of repentance. He wants the wicked to turn back to Him, to get "a new heart and a new spirit."

**Action:** "Therefore turn and live!" (Ezekiel 18:32)

### **Week 39 Day 3**

**Readings:** Luke 24:1-12; Titus 2:11-15; Psalm 78:1-22; Proverbs 19:6-11; Ezekiel 19-20.

**Focus Verse:** "A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies shall perish." (Proverbs 19:9)

**Key Concept:** Lying is Wrong (Proverbs 19:9). The warped values of many in our society offer new definitions for things God calls sin. People "bend the truth," use "double-speak" and distribute "misinformation" because they think their goals justify their methods. Some tell us that morality and ethics are situational, suggesting that lies are not always evil. Despite all the changes in labels men may make, lies are still lies, and they are still deadly!

**Action:** Tell the truth.

### **Week 39 Day 4**

**Readings:** Luke 24:13-27; Titus 3:1-8; Psalm 78:23-51; Proverbs 19:12-17; Ezekiel 21-22.

**Focus Verse:** "He who has pity on the poor lends to the Lord, and He will pay back what he has given." (Proverbs 19:17)

**Key Concept:** "Ought Not the Christ to Have Suffered?" (Luke 24:13-27). Two men who had followed Jesus walked the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus, confused by the events of recent days. They explained to a stranger that they "were hoping" that Jesus would redeem Israel, but those hopes were crushed when He was killed. The "stranger" pointed out their misconception of the Messianic mission. The cross did not prevent redemption; it made it possible.

**Action:** Thank God that Jesus died and arose.

### **Week 39 Day 5**

**Readings:** Luke 24:28-35; Titus 3:9-15; Psalm 78:52-72; Proverbs 19:18-23; Ezekiel 23.

**Focus Verse:** "What is desired in a man is kindness, and a poor man is better than a liar." (Proverbs 19:22)

**Key Concept:** Hearts Burning Within (Luke 24:28-35). Jesus, the "stranger" who accompanied two men en route to Emmaus, finally revealed Himself and then vanished. The men were so excited that, even at that late hour, they journeyed seven miles back up to Jerusalem to share the good news. Their hearts were on fire, and they could not keep the message of the gospel to themselves.

**Action:** Think about the eternal value of the gospel. Can you keep it to yourself today?

### **Week 39 Day 6**

**Readings:** Luke 24:36-43; Philemon 1-16; Psalm 79; Proverbs 19:24-29; Ezekiel 24-25.

**Focus Verse:** "Cease listening to instruction, my son, and you will stray from the words of knowledge."  
(Proverbs 19:27)

**Key Concept:** Proof of Victory (Luke 24:36-43). Jesus appeared to His apostles to confirm the truth of testimony that He had risen from the dead. The completeness of His victory over death is underscored by His bodily resurrection. Death could not hold the body of Jesus, nor will it hold the bodies of His followers. The bodies of the faithful will be raised and changed into immortal bodies (cf. 1 Corinthians 15:44).

**Action:** Prepare today for eternity with Christ.

### **Week 39 Day 7**

**Readings:** Luke 24:44-53; Philemon 17-25; Psalm 80; Proverbs 20:1-6; Ezekiel 26-27.

**Focus Verse:** "Restore us, O God of hosts; Cause Your face to shine, And we shall be saved!" (Psalm 80:7)

**Key Concept:** Jesus Died to Fulfill (Luke 24:44-49). A dead king? Those who killed Jesus thought they had conquered His cause. Many of His followers, failing to understand His promise of the resurrection, felt defeated. Even some today believe the Jews' rejection of Jesus forced Him to postpone His plans to establish His kingdom. To the contrary, Jesus shows that His death was a necessary part of God's plan. He died because He chose to die.

**Action:** Follow the apostles' example--Worship Jesus with joy (Luke 24:52).