

breaking of the bread. Jesus vanished out of their sight. As they meditated on this wonderful experience, they said one to another, "Was not our heart burning within us, while He spake to us in the way, while He opened to us the scriptures?" (verse 32) The same hour they rose up and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered in the upper room. Upon their arrival the two disciples of Emmaus were saluted with the words, "The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon." Then Cleopas and his companion told what things had happened to them and how Jesus was known of them in the breaking of bread.

While the disciples were speaking in the upper room, Jesus Himself stood in their midst. (verse 36) When they saw Him they were scared and supposed that they had seen a spirit. Thereupon Jesus comforts their troubled hearts by showing them His hands and His feet, thus proving His identity. In confirmation of the reality of His person, Jesus says, "Handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye behold Me having." While they still disbelieved for joy, Jesus took a piece of broiled fish and did eat in the presence of the disciples. (24:36-43)

In the consideration of verses 44 through 49, we may think of them as a summary of our Lord's teaching, perhaps on different occasions. Jesus shows the necessity of the fulfillment of the Scriptures concerning Himself. Here He opened the minds of the disciples so that they might understand the Scriptures. He said unto them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer, and rise again from the dead the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name unto all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. Ye are witnesses of these things. And behold, I send forth the promise of My Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city, until ye be clothed with power from on high." (verses 46-49)