

Trinity News

Easter II - Beliefs Change Perceptions of our Destinies

Luke 24:13-35

“The human mind is part of the infinite intellect of God” (Benedict de Spinoza). Spinoza also said: “The mind’s highest good is the knowledge of God”. Wayne Dyer says, “Yes, your mind is largely responsible for who you are and what you’ve become, but there’s also a beingness buried within you, in a place where your thoughts originate.”

The writer of the Fourth Gospel says that the Word (logos – “ground of all reason”) became flesh. The speech of God becomes directly audible in Jesus of Nazareth. This would not have been possible if such a capacity was not inherent in all of us. “Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus”, says Paul (Philippians 2:5). And this implies that in coming among us the Christ also had to inhabit our mind as well. This led Paul the Apostle to reiterate that we as believers are “in Christ” (*en Christo*). It also follows that he is also in us, as the Apostle recognizes. Belief in God opens up a vast panorama of creative thinking and expanding horizons. Many keen minds are now claiming that a change in beliefs changes not only our world views, but also enhances our sense of well-being and our capacity to visualize our own destinies.

The Gospel today uses a journey motif to demonstrate the effect of radical changes in belief. Cleopas and another disciple are on the road to Emmaus on Easter Day. The Risen Lord joins them and they talk about the events in Jerusalem, seven miles away. The divine incognito prevents them recognising Jesus. The name Cleopas identifies a follower of Jesus who would have spoken to other disciples about the encounter with Christ on the road. Jesus then interprets his Cross and resurrection from the Jewish Scriptures, “beginning with Moses and all the prophets.”

Now Cleopas and the other disciple hear a personal interpretation of his own death and resurrection from Jesus! Fortunate disciples! They press Jesus to join them at home for a meal. He breaks bread with them and then disappears.

This leads to a spiritual awakening, with their hearts “burning within”, a description of an experience of the “Spirit of Jesus” (Acts 16:7).

A radical change has occurred in their beliefs. Messiah is real, resurrection is real. Spirit links up with mind, and suddenly the world is different. “If you knew who walked beside you at all times on this path that you have chosen, you could never experience fear or doubt again” (A Course in Miracles).

“Your biography can affect your biology: that is, by clinging to old hurts or remembrances, you keep yourself in a place of attracting disease (or disease) into your body”. Wayne Dyer also makes the following points:
I have the power to undo my old thoughts about my genetic destiny.
If I stay with them and live from my heart, my beliefs can inspire new talents if I so desire.

I intend to keep my beliefs uppermost, and refuse to blame anything in the material world for any deficiencies in my life.

“Nor deem the irrevocable Past
As wholly wasted, wholly vain,
If, rising on its wrecks, at last
To something nobler we attain.”

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Belief in God aligned to a profound sense of guided destiny can radically change our future. It can release us from the limiting and damaging accepted patterns from the past.

Bishop Arthur Jones

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Acts 6:1-9, 7:2a, 51-60; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10

TO PLAN:

Tuesday, May 10.

- Bible Study, 10am
- Bible Study, 7:15pm
@ the Tutton's (#3
Sta. Potenciana,
Urdaneta Village)

Thursday, May 12.

- Midweek Eucharist,
10am, Chapel