**Sermon Title: Evidence that Demands a Verdict**

**Sermon Text: Luke 24:33-53**

**Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to fulfill the responsibility of “What’s Next” in light of the Resurrection.**

**Sermon Proposition: There are 5 observations Luke provides for modern day believers.**

**Introduction:** Many profess to be followers of Jesus Christ today who do not necessarily reflect the evidence, that belief and trust in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus must be producing, by obedience to Scripture, the presence of the Holy Spirit, the overflow of worship. So we will try to answer the question, “What’s Next” as a result of the evidence that demands a verdict.

**I. The evidence of verifiable witnesses. Vv.33-37**

A. The two rushed to the disciples. V.33

 B. The two witnessed the Resurrected Christ. Vv.34-35

 1. Simon was a witness. V.34

 2. The two on the Emmaus Road were witnesses. V.35

 **Acts 22:15** `For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard.

 **Acts 10:39-40** "And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. **40** "Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly,

**II. The evidence of a physical presence. Vv.38-43**

A. He is flesh and bones. Vv.38-39

 B. He shows His wounds. V.40

 C. He eats with them (fellowship). Vv.41-43

 **1 John 1:1-4** That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life--

 **2** the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us-- **3** that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. **4** And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

**III. The evidence of the revealed Scripture. Vv.44-47**

A. The Scripture forewarns of the details of Jesus’ death and resurrection v.44

 B. The Spirit opens the minds for understanding. V.45

 C. The Scriptures prophecies the utter necessity of Jesus’ death and resurrection on the third day. v.46

 **Matthew 5:18** "For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.

 **Acts 2:23-24** "Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; **24** "whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it.

 **Acts 17:2-3** Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, **3** explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and *saying*, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ."

**IV. The evidence of the promised gifts. Vv.48-51**

 A. Those who the Holy Spirit has come upon proclaim repentance and remission of sins. V.47

 B. Those who are possessed by the Holy Spirit are witnesses of these truths. V.48

 (**John 15:26-27; 16:7-14; Acts 1:4-8**)

**V. The evidence of a victorious worship. Vv.52-53**

 A. The evidence in the response of worship. V.52a

 B. The evidence in being filled with joy. V.52b

 C. The evidence of continuous fellowship with other believers. V.53

 **Romans 8:35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

 **Romans 8:38-39** For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, **39** nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

 **Hebrews 10:25** not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.