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- 7054 Winnetka Ave., Winnetka, CA 91306
- Mail To: P.O. Box 2711, Winnetka, CA 91396
- 818-795-5566 (cell phone)
- W. Bruce Evans, Minister: e-mail to wbe@wolfenet.com

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www.winnetkachurchofchrist.com

CONNECT THE DOTS...

There is a unique painting style that was developed in 1880's by a French artist by the name of Georges Seurat. Pointillism was created by Seurat, as he used small dots of color in place of brush strokes of blended pigments to produce a painting of pleasing aesthetic value. In order to appreciate what some have referred to his art works as a product of "logical abstraction and an almost mathematical precision of mind", up close it looks like a jumble of dots; one needs to step back in order to see the beauty to be found therein. The human eye merges the dots and suddenly the portrait or landscape vividly appears on the canvas. The big picture is made visible.

The full panorama of the Bible is kind of similar. Up close, the sophistication of the Scriptures can leave us as if we are looking at dots on a canvas; not putting them altogether in order to see the big picture. In the 24th chapter of Luke, a classic example of this is seen in Cleopas and his companion as they walked the road to Emmaus. They couldn't put together all the sundry pieces of what had transpired during the recent Passover weekend and expressed as much to a "traveler" that joined them on their journey.

Not recognizing Jesus, they began to relate to Him bit by bit what had taken place, finally coming to the point where they said, "*But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day*

since these things happened." (Luke 24:21) In the verses that follow, Jesus (still unrecognizable to them) begins to connect the dots. "*O foolish men and slow of heart to believe, in all that the prophets have spoken!*" (Luke 24:25)



Jesus asks the men a question, "*Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?*" (Luke 24:26) He then proceeds to connect the "dots" from Moses and the prophets, and as Luke

notes, "*He explained to them the things concerning Himself in the Scriptures.*" (24:27) Arriving at their destination, the two men invited Jesus to stay with them. They still hadn't come to recognize Him. Then while reclined at the table, relaxing and eating a meal, "*their eyes were opened and they recognized Him*" (24:31)

The "dots" came into full focus and they could see clearly how the big picture all fit together and said to one another, "*were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?*" (Luke 24:32) How many today long to have the "dots" connected when it comes to the pages of God's Word? The finished picture is Christ

"*He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to the fulness of times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ...*" (Ephesians 1:9-10) (wbe)

THE BULWARK