

NOTHING is greater than **Jesus risen!**,,but there are some OTHER Great Things in the Gospel which we just heard. There is, rather hilariously, the Greatest DUMB QUESTION in the entire Bible: When the pedestrian disciples on the Emmaus Road ask Jesus,

“Are you the only one who DOESN’T know the things that happened in Jerusalem?”

And there is a corresponding Great Irony when Jesus responds, ***“What things?”***

Then there is the World’s Greatest “Bible Study,” led by Jesus as they walk along...Jesus...the ultimate Author OF The Bible...

And then there is something that very early Church Fathers noticed:

1. That “Bible Study” that Jesus led was very much like the “Liturgy of The Word” at MASS – and (God help the REST of us pulpit-dwellers!) JESUS was the PREACHER!...THEN
2. Jesus’s taking and blessing of bread and wine is clearly and comparably the “Liturgy of the Eucharist”, following that on-the-road Liturgy of the Word.

And, as commentators, early-to-current, have pointed out: It was entirely appropriate for Jesus to “vanish” after the “consecration,” because, NOW, He was PRESENT IN that bread and wine that He had transubstantiated on that Emmaus “table”-altar.

On the surface, though – at least on the ENGLISH surface – there is an UN-stated, certainly un-ANSWERED question: ***DID those two disciples “consume” the “eucharistic” elements offered by the Highest of all High Priests?*** Some translations imply that those two were off like Track Stars. Were they in such a hurry that they, pardon the expression, “left Mass early”?

Thankfully, in the Greek, there is a CLUE...as GREAT as this story’s OTHER “greatnesses.” Alas, the translation we heard defectively deprives us OF that CLUE, which is, itself, practically an ANSWER. That MIS-translation simply says that those two disciples, “Set out...for Jerusalem.”

Better translations say something like, they “...ROSE UP in that same hour...”. That’s an important, if weak, improvement...but what DOES the GREEK SAY? It could be LITERALLY translated:

“RESURRECTED in that same hour, they returned to Jerusalem.”

As they say in Hebrew... “WOW!” In RECEIVING – as I believe they surely DID – the RESURRECTED JESUS in the FORM of bread and wine, their OWN resurrection was already begun!

And that Resurrection was advanced with their every faithful reception of the Body-and-Blood of Christ, until death removed what we could call The Last Gravity – and, yes, they “ROSE UP,” alright – as the BODY of Christ can ultimately ONLY be...where the HEAD has already ascended.

“Alleluia! Christ is risen!” – And so shall all the faithful be risen – indeed! Alleluia!

MASS INTENTION:

Prayer At The Intercessions:

Almighty God, grant that, at every Holy Communion worthily received, we may know that you are raising us ever closer to Him who is our Head, our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.