

Who was the mysterious man on the road to Emmaus? That's what Cleopas wanted to know. Cleopas and his friend had been walking away from Jerusalem, talking about Jesus' death, when the man suddenly appeared with them. 'What are you talking about?' the man asked. Everyone in Jerusalem was talking about Jesus. Where had this stranger been?



Cleopas said, 'We're talking about our friend, the prophet Jesus. We thought he was the Messiah, the one sent by God to save Israel, but he was killed three days ago, and now we don't know what to think.' There was something familiar about the stranger, but Cleopas couldn't put his finger on it.

Cleopas' friend said, 'This morning some women went to Jesus' tomb and told us the body was gone. They said they saw angels, who told them he was alive. The body's definitely gone. The disciples checked. But what does it mean? Where's the body?'

Then the stranger began to speak about the Old Testament prophets. He explained how the Messiah's life and death had been predicted a long time ago. 'You are slow and foolish not to see it,' the stranger said. 'The Messiah had to suffer before entering his glory.'

They all arrived in Emmaus as evening approached. 'Come in and eat with us,' Cleopas said. The stranger accepted, and when he broke the bread, Cleopas suddenly knew who he was. It was Jesus! Back from the dead!

Jesus disappeared and Cleopas and his friend couldn't contain themselves. They rushed back to Jerusalem to tell the 11 disciples what had happened. When they got there, the disciples were talking about Jesus. 'He appeared to Simon. He has risen!' Cleopas told his story and how he had recognised Jesus when he broke bread.