

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Questioning Jesus"
Luke 7:18-35
Study-28

Doubt is a matter of the Mind: We cannot seem to understand what God is doing or why He is allowing it.

Unbelief is a matter of the Will: We refuse to believe God's Word and obey what He instructs us to do.

This account is also recorded in **Matthew 11:1-19**

Luke 7-8 Miracles and Parables: Luke 7 Jesus Calls People To Faith.

Thought Of Our Passage: "Life Will Be Confusing So We Need To Turn To Jesus Who Can Then Give Guidance Through His Word."

1. Verses 18-23 Confusion

2. Verses 24-30 Commendation

3. Verses 31-35 Condemnation

1. Verses 18-23 Confusion

Luke 7:18 The disciples of John reported to him about **all these things**.

Context – Luke 7:11-17 Jesus was in Nain and raised a widow's son from the dead. **Luke 7:15-17**

Matthew 11:2 heard of the works of Christ, (Matthew 11:2-19)
works of Christ - Jesus was performing many miracles.

Luke 7:19 Summoning two of his disciples, John **sent them to the Lord**,

John's Doubts led him to speak to Jesus about it!

(Confession/Prayer) Good!

John 6:67-68

saying, "Are You the Expected One,

It was John who had announced the Messiah: **John 1:29**

Luke 3:16-19 The Messiah, when He comes, He will bring judgment!

Luke 3:20 that he locked John up in prison.

John has been in prison for about 18 months. *Machaerus in Perea East of the Dead Sea (Herod's winter place)*

The Messiah came to set the prisoners free - Luke 4:18

Luke 3:17 He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

or do we look for someone else?"

Did John Announce The Wrong Person?

- **Moses** was ready to quit on one occasion (Numbers 11:10-15) Please kill me!
- **Elijah** (1 Kings 19) requested that he might die!
- **Jeremiah** (Jerimiah 20:7-9, 14-18) I wish I had died before birth!
- **Paul** knew the meaning of despair (2 Corinthians 1:8-9); despair of life!

Doubt - is a matter of the mind: we cannot understand what God is doing or why He is allowing it.

Unbelief - is a matter of the will: we refuse to believe God's Word and obey what He tells us to do.

John Was Human:

John's Difficult Circumstances:

John's Unfulfilled Expectations:

Luke 7:20 The prophets were perplexed about some of these things.

1 Peter 1:10-12

Dr. Graham Scroggie said, "More people live in mountains and valleys than on plains: experience is much up and down."

Luke 7:21 At that very time He cured many people of diseases and afflictions

Happened to be healing!

and evil spirits; casting out demons, and He gave sight to many who were blind.

Luke 7:22 Jesus Answers With Deeds:

"Go and report to John what you have seen and heard:

Jesus was modeling for them the answer to their heart's questions.

What Christianity accomplishes is its own apologetics!

The Plain Evidence Jesus Is The Messiah:

(Isaiah 26:19; 35:5-6; 61:1)

Luke 7:23 "Blessed is he who does not take offense at Me."

How fortunate, how happy is the person that does not stumble over Jesus!

take offense - (KJV "offended") stumbling

The Greek word translated gives us our English word *scandalize*, and it originally referred to the "bait stick" in a trap. **(Isaiah 8:14-15)**

"Blessed is the person that does not fall away because of their disappointment with the way that God chooses to work."

at Me. Authoritative Statement Of Jesus **"Me" God!** The focus of Luke is Jesus.

2. Verses 24-30 Commendation

Luke 7:24 Jesus commends what John has been doing. He wanted the crowd to know that John was right. His ministry was of God.

Jesus Commends John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see?" Jesus asks three questions **Verses 24-26 "What did you go out to see?"**

A reed shaken by the wind? - Metaphor for *"an easy-going person."*

Ephesians 4:14

Luke 7:25 John was not soft; he wore camel's hair, a leather belt –
Mark 1:6 No one owned John but God!

Verses 26-28 John Was More Than A Prophet: Luke 7:26

The last of the Old Testament prophets. Forerunner!

Luke 7:27 (Malachi 3:1) Angel of the Lord said to Zechariah **Luke 1:17** after John's circumcision **Luke 1:76**

Luke 7:28 In position, not in character or ministry. John was the herald of the King, announcing the kingdom.

least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." Believers are children of the kingdom (Children are better than the announcer)
(John 15:15; 2 Corinthians 3:1-18).

Verse 29 Godly Response To John: Luke 7:29 When all the people and the tax-gatherers heard this, - The common people

acknowledged God's justice - They *"pronounced God just,"* which means they agreed with what God said, *"God's way is right!"*

having been baptized with the baptism of John.

The common people accepted John's message and were baptized by him as proof of their repentance. - Humility.

Verse 30 Ungodly Response To John: Luke 7:30 But the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves,

This is saying that the religious community rejected God's remedy for sin, which was Jesus.

But the religious leaders justified themselves. **Luke 16:15**

Concerned about the law of God but not the will of God!

not having been baptized by John.

(Confession and repentance of one's sins, and willingness to follow.)

3. Verses 31-35 Condemnation

Luke 7:31 Jesus illustrates the generation/rejectors to which John and Jesus were ministering to.

Luke 7:32 "They are like children

They were **Childlike** or **Childish**, Probably referring to the Scribes and Pharisees, who had rejected the message.

who sit in the marketplace and call to one another; and they say, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"

Verse 33 People Didn't Want John: John gave up the comforts of the world. 'He has a demon!' (Righteous Testimony Rejected).

Verse 34 People Didn't Want Jesus: Jesus mingled with the people and preached a gracious message of salvation.

Luke 7:35 Wisdom is demonstrated in the changed lives of those who believe.

Application: How to Deal with Doubt:

1. Admit That We Have Doubts: (Confess) John shared it with his messengers and sent them to Jesus.
2. Take Our Doubts To Jesus: (Prayer) John Asked Jesus.
3. Look Back Upon God's Faithfulness: (Word) "Go and report to John what you hear and see.
4. Start Trusting God Right Now: (Faith) Luke 7:23 "Blessed is he who does not take offense at Me."