

The Gospel of **LUKE**



Chapter 7:18-35

The Radical, Restorative Reign of God

Luke 7

¹⁸ The disciples of John the Baptist told John about everything Jesus was doing. So John called for two of his disciples, ¹⁹ and he sent them to the Lord to ask him, “Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?” ²⁰ John’s two disciples found Jesus and said to him, “John the Baptist sent us to ask, ‘Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?’”



**GOD'S ACTIVITY OFTEN LOOKS VERY
DIFFERENT THAN WE EXPECT**



Luke 7

²¹ At that very time, Jesus cured many people of their diseases, illnesses, and evil spirits, and he restored sight to many who were blind. ²² Then he told John's disciples, "Go back to John and tell him what you have seen and heard —

Luke 7

- the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor. ²³ And tell him, ‘God blesses those who do not turn away because of me.’”

Isaiah 35

⁵ Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped.⁶ Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

THE FOCUS OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IS ON RESTORATION, NOT PUNISHMENT



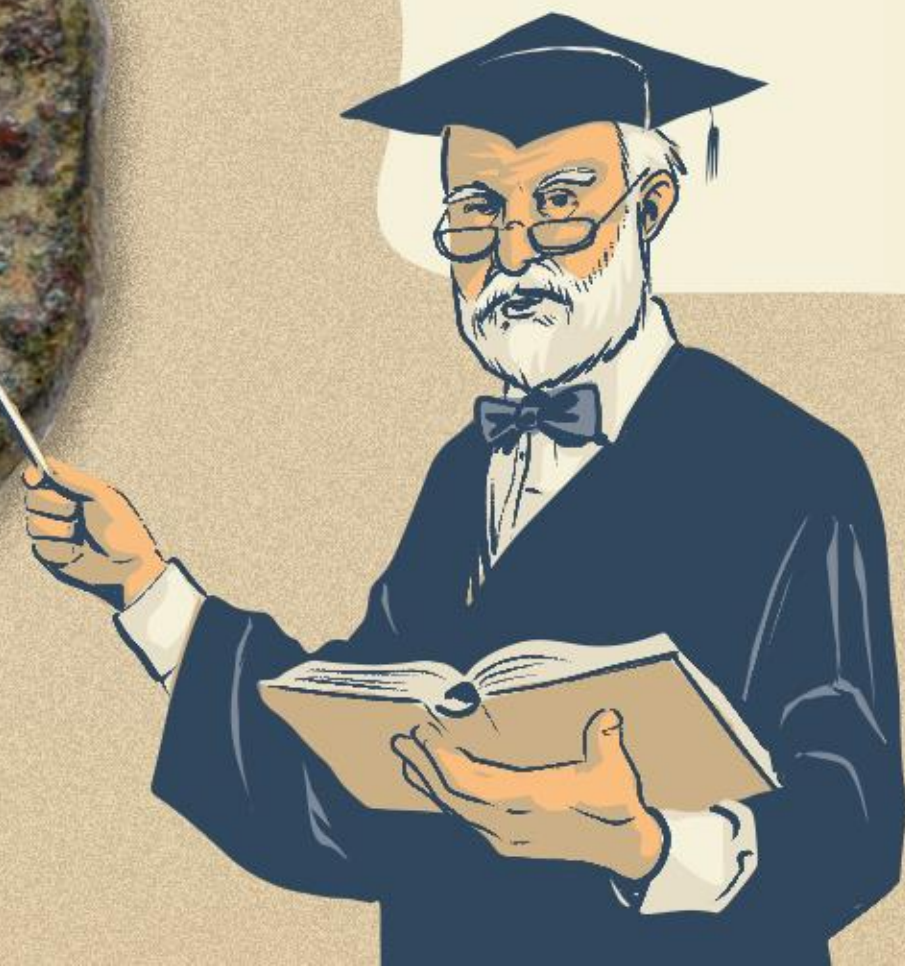
Luke 7

²⁴ After John's disciples left, Jesus began talking about him to the crowds. "What kind of man did you go into the wilderness to see? Was he a weak reed, swayed by every breath of wind? ²⁵ Or were you expecting to see a man dressed in expensive clothes? No, people who wear beautiful clothes and live in luxury are found in palaces.

Luke 7

²⁶ Were you looking for a prophet? Yes, and he is more than a prophet. ²⁷ John is the man to whom the Scriptures refer when they say, ‘Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, and he will prepare your way before you.’ ²⁸ I tell you, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John. Yet even the least person in the Kingdom of God is greater than he is!”

COIN OF HEROD ANTIPAS
WITH GALILEAN REED SEAL



**THE POTENTIAL OF GOD'S ACTIVITY IS
PRESENT WITHIN EACH OF US TODAY**



Luke 7

²⁹ When they heard this, all the people—even the tax collectors—agreed that God’s way was right, for they had been baptized by John. ³⁰ But the Pharisees and experts in religious law rejected God’s plan for them, for they had refused John’s baptism.

Luke 7

³¹ “To what can I compare the people of this generation?” Jesus asked. “How can I describe them? ³² They are like children playing a game in the public square. They complain to their friends, ‘We played wedding songs, and you didn’t dance, so we played funeral songs, and you didn’t weep.’”

Luke 7

³³ For John the Baptist didn't spend his time eating bread or drinking wine, and you say, 'He's possessed by a demon.'³⁴ The Son of Man, on the other hand, feasts and drinks, and you say, 'He's a glutton and a drunkard, and a friend of tax collectors and other sinners!'³⁵ But wisdom is shown to be right by the lives of those who follow it. ”

GOD'S ACTIVITY CHOOSES RESTORATION OVER RESPECTABILITY



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