

**Monday, August 8, 2022 ◻ Luke 7:18–35**

*Questions from the Scripture text: Whose disciples reported to him about Jesus (v18)? To Whom did John send two disciples (v19)? What did he send them to ask? What do the men do (v20)? And what does Jesus do (v21)? When? What answer does Jesus send back to John (v22–23)? To whom does Jesus begin speaking about whom in v24? What does He ask them? What else does He ask in v25? To whom is Jesus comparing him? What does He ask the third time (v26)? Which prophet does Jesus say that John is (v27)? How great a prophet does Jesus say that John is (v28)? Bot who is greater than he? Who justified God in v29? Why? Who rejected the will of God in v30? Why not? About whom does Jesus now ask in v31? What does he call them (v32)? What are they doing? What didn't John the Baptist do (v33)? And what did they say about him? Who did eat and drink (v34)? And what did they say about Him? Who will be justified by whom (v35)?*

**What do we do when Jesus is different than our expectations?** In these sixteen verses of Holy Scripture, the Holy Spirit teaches us that **we must modify our expectations to submit to and adore Jesus in the expectation-shattering greatness of His salvation.**

One of the hallmarks of our Lord Jesus Christ is that He doesn't please this world. When John the Baptizer wants to know if Jesus is the Coming One (v19–21)—the One of Whom John himself had said that he was not worthy to untie His sandal—Jesus immediately shows many miracles to those whom John sent (v21). Yes, Jesus is not of this world. But the climax of Jesus's response was "the poor have the gospel preached to them" (v22). Not only Jesus's power, but also His values, are not what we would expect from this world. He has a special care for "the least of these." Is Jesus what the world would expect? No. But it is our duty to modify our expectations and fall down in worship (v23).

Jesus proceeds to point out that John also hadn't been what the world expected.. The Baptizer wasn't the kind of wimpy (v24) man-pleaser like the wealthy of the world (v25). But he who was not impressive to the world was greater than all the other prophets (v26–28).

Again, when expectations collide, God's must prevail. John had preached a baptism of repentance, and the sinners who had received it (v29) praised God for the news that the one who enters the kingdom in the worthiness of Jesus (end of v28) has a worthiness even greater than John's!

But those who wished not to repent at all, but to count themselves worthy without it, rejected Jesus's message about an out-of-this-world worthiness through faith in Christ (v30). Jesus confronts these, who have rejected both of them.

On the one hand, John's message of the necessity of extreme repentance was more than they could bear, so they said, "He has a demon" (v33). But, neither could they bear Jesus's message of free grace for sinners and a life of liberty to enjoy the good things of God in a godly way; so they attacked Him for encouraging joyous feasting and drinking wine, calling Him a friend of tax collectors and sinners (v34, cf. 5:27–32).

But what is the wisdom of God? It is the wisdom that demands a complete and perfect righteousness in God's holiness, but, turning around in power and mercy, completely provides that perfect righteousness in Christ. And those who receive this gospel of grace praise the wisdom of God as perfect (v35)!

Whom do you know that is unimpressed with/rejecting the Lord or His true/biblical people?

*Sample prayer: Lord, thank You for giving us righteousness and joy that are greater than we could imagine. Make our expectations of righteousness and joy match Yours, we ask in Your Name, AMEN!*

**Suggested songs: ARP51A "God, Be Merciful to Me" or TPH51C "God, Be Merciful to Me"**

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Luke 7 verse 18 through 35. These are God's words. Then the disciples of John reported to him, concerning all these things and John calling two of his disciples to him. Sent them to Jesus saying, Are you the coming one or do we look for another? But the men had come to him.

They said Tom the baptizer that sent us to you saying Are you the coming one or do we look for another? I'm not very hour. He cured many of infirmities, afflictions and evil spirits. And to many blind, He gave sight. Jesus answered and said to them, go and tell John the things you have seen and heard that the blind, see the lame.

Walk The lepers are cleansed. The deaf here, the data raised and the poor have the gospel. Preached, two of them and blessed. Is he? Who is not offended because of me.

When the messengers of John had departed, he began to speak to the multitudes concerning. John, What did you go out into the wilderness, to see a reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see a man? Clothed and soft garments. Indeed those who are gorgeously appalled and live and luxury are in King's courts.

But what did you go out to see a prophet? Yes, I say to you and more than a profit. This is he of whom it is written, behold. I will send my messenger before your face. Who will prepare your way before you for, I say to you Among those born of women, there's not a greater profit than John the Baptist baptizer, but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.

And when all the people heard him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees lawyers rejected, the will of God for themselves. Not having been baptized by him and the Lord said to. What then shall I like in the men of this generation?

And what are they like? They're like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another saying, We played the flute for you and you did not dance. We mourned to you and you did not weep for drawing. The baptizer came neither eating bread nor drinking wine. You say he has a demon, the son of man has come eating and drinking.

And yes, I look a glutton and a wine barber, a friend of tax collectors and centers, But wisdom is justified by all her children.

Often people come to Christ, and to the truth about Christ with certain expectations. Jesus's cousin, John had expectations. And when they weren't met, he sent to have his disciples to ask. If Jesus was the Christ After he had spent his earthly public ministry announcing, that Jesus would come. And then, when Jesus showed up, he recognized him and he said, this is the one I told you about, but he had had different expectations.

Jesus doesn't, please. Us doesn't exist to please us.

Jesus responds to John's inquiry by showing many miracles to those who John had sent. Jesus is demonstrating that he is not of this world that he does have the power that John had hoped. He did that John was right? He was not worthy to untie Jesus's sandals but the climax of Jesus's response was not the feeling of the blind or infirmities or afflictions when he told them to go back and tell John what they had seen and heard The climax of it was the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Jesus's power was greater than what was expected. He showed the power not of a great man, but of the god, man and his values were not what we would expect from this world. Either get a special care for the poor note. That it was a gospel care for the poor, many think that they have a special care for the poor by giving them money but we perish and our money parishes with us.

The Lord Jesus's special care for the poor wasn't giving them the gospel. When Jesus is different than we had expected and often a believer, has an idea about the sort of life you will have with Jesus, whether he thinks it will be earthly prosperous. Sadly, there are many churches that are full of that or whether he thinks that if he just does the things that it'll be spiritually.

Easy. I'm afraid that's a little more subtle and easy to fall into When the Lord Jesus and our life with him. Our life trusting in Him, turns out different than we had expected. It is our duty to modify our expectations, and not be offended because of him.

Jesus points out that John had not been what the world expected either. He asked them what they went out to see.

He said that John was not easy to blow and whatever direction they wanted him to blow those who are in politics. And many of those who are in ministry, They very easily, find themselves, able to say whatever people want them to say. They're like the reed and the wind of what public opinion or public desire is just blows them in whatever direction they want.

John had not been like that. John was not comfortable or in luxury. He wasn't the kind of wimpy man, pleaser. That the wealthy of the world is but he who is not impressive to the world. Jesus says His greater than all the other prophets profit. Yes, I say to you more than a profit.

This is he of whom it is written. Behold. I send my messenger before your face will prepare your way before you

When our expectations collide with God's expectations, God's expectations must went out. John had preached. A baptism of repentance and there were some who had received it and they vindicated God. They said, yes. That's right. God's expectations are the right ones. John is greater than all the other prophets but there were others who were not repentant and they did not receive the baptism of John because they didn't think they needed a repent of anything.

They thought they were like, what Jesus actually was. You remember when Jesus showed up to be baptized and John said, no, I need to be baptized by you. Well, the Pharisee is actually thought of themselves as if they were, what Jesus really is not needing repentance.

Jesus confronts them Any points out to them that they rejected, both John and Jesus, when John came and He's committed to enjoying or committed to complete repentance. He said he has a demon, The standards are too high expects, even us to repent If we need to repent and then everybody needs to repent.

Well, yes, that was sort of the point but he came neither eating bread, nor drinking wine. And they said, he has a demon and Jesus came with a message of free grace for sinners and the life of liberty to enjoy the good things of God and a godly way.

And so they attacked him for encouraging the enjoyment of food and drink. They called him a glutton and a wine. Bear a friend of tax collectors and centers. But the wisdom of God, this wisdom verse 35, that is justified, by all her children as a wisdom, that demands complete, and perfect righteousness and God's holiness.

It agrees with John, We must repent from our sins but it also turns around and power and mercy of God and gives us repentance by God's power repentance. By God's mercy righteousness in Christ. And invites us to enjoy the good things of God not to indulge in sin but having been forgiven of sin to enjoy good things in a good way, that's the wisdom of God.

Where life begins with faith in Christ and it doesn't call good things. Bad. Just because our sin would be tempted to take advantage of them and those who receive the gospel of the grace of Jesus. They praise the wisdom of God verse. 35 says, wisdom is justified by all her children.

So you don't be offended at the Lord. Jesus that he demands perfect righteousness but trust in him that he has provided for you, the perfect righteousness that you demands. And don't think that those who rejoice in a proper way and the good things that God has given or somehow in danger or opposed to the teaching of the Bible.

So could be nothing further from the truth. The Lord. Jesus. Enjoyed. Good things so much. It was accused of being a glutton and a drunkard and a partier and the Puritans for instance enjoyed very much simple thing like marriage and ordinary life and work and feasting with family. And course, the Blessedness of the Lord's day.

There's was life full of joy with God from morning to night. They didn't think like the Pharisees. Did that got us somehow impressed with how miserable we are willing to be made by him. Psalm 50, you're not some Isaiah 58.

When when Jesus isn't what we had expected. We need to change our expectations and be content with him as he is.

For.

What do you think you for giving yourself to pay for our sin and making yourself? Far, righteousness, and giving us the joy of belonging to you and enjoying you.

Forgive us when we shrink from holiness or when we treat you as a hard master. As if holy some means unhappy but make us to be joyful in you. We ask, and Christ's name Amen.