

Studies in the Life of Christ

NT Survey Lesson 15--Luke 7

Introduction: In this chapter, like many others, Luke masterfully reminds us of the compassion and power of Jesus. It pictures His compassion for the servant of a centurion in Capernaum, a widow at Nain, for His forerunner John, and for the sinful woman who came to Him. Jesus' own compassion serves as an objection lesson of the teaching that He gave on the subject of forgiveness in the last parable.

Lesson aim: To examine the various expressions of faith manifest toward Jesus.

The centurion's servant is healed--Luke 7:1-10

1. What hints do we have that the centurion was not a Jew? (v. 1-5) How would you describe His character?
2. Why did the centurion not come himself and ask for Jesus' help? (v. 6-7)
3. How did the centurion demonstrate remarkable faith? (v. 8)
4. What observation did Jesus make about the centurion's faith? (v. 9-10)

A widow's son is raised from the dead--Luke 7:11-17

1. Describe the scene encountered by the Lord as he entered the city of Nain (v. 11-12)
2. What prompted the Lord to raise this woman's son? (v. 13-15)
3. What was the reaction of the people to Jesus' miracle? (v. 16-17)

Messengers come from John in prison--Luke 7:18-23

1. What was John's condition at the time of this episode? (See Mt. 14:3-5)
2. What does John's question suggest about his spiritual state of mind? (v. 18-20)
3. How does Jesus answer John's questions? (v. 21-23) With what blessing does He encourage John?

Jesus comments on John's work--Luke 7:24-35

1. How did Jesus characterize John? (v. 24-27) What prophesy did Jesus say He fulfilled?
2. What compliment did Jesus pay to John? (v. 28) What superior position of greatness and privilege did Jesus mention?
3. How had the sinners of John's day responded to his teaching? (v. 29-30) How had the Pharisees and lawyers responded?
4. To what did Jesus compare His generation? (v. 31-35) Why? What is meant, "Wisdom is vindicated by her children"?

A sinful woman anoints Jesus' feet--Luke 7:36-50

1. Describe the conduct of the woman who stood behind Jesus (v. 36-38) Would you say her conduct was normal? Extreme? Justified?
2. What complaint did the Pharisee host utter? (v. 39) What might he have done in Jesus' place?
3. What is the point of Jesus' short parable? (v. 40-43)
4. How were the Pharisee and the sinful woman different? (v. 44-46)
5. Of what was this woman "saved"? (v. 47- 50) Upon what basis?