



REIGNITING YOUR PASSION FOR CHRIST

A Study of the Gospel of Luke
FOR THOSE WHO DOUBT LUKE 7:18-35

INTRODUCTION: Is it a sin to doubt God's goodness or even His existence? Today we are going to examine Jesus' surprising reaction to the serious doubt of one of His most faithful disciples and discover some practical ways to deal with doubt in our lives.

I. John's Question Concerning Jesus' Identity (Luke 7:18-21)

Luke 7:18 "And the disciples of John reported to him about all these things."

Luke 7:19 "And summoning two of his disciples, John sent them to the Lord, saying, 'Are You the Expected One, or do we look for someone else?'"

A. Sources of Doubt

1. Unlived **truth**
2. Unexamined **faith**
3. Unanswered **prayer**
4. Undeserved **suffering**

II. Jesus' Response To John's Doubt (Luke 7:22-35)

A. To John (Luke 7:22-23)

Luke 7:22 "And He answered and said to them, 'Go and report to John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have the gospel preached to them.'"

Luke 7:23 "And blessed is he who keeps from stumbling over Me."

B. To the Multitude (Luke 7:24-29)

Luke 7:24 "And when the messengers of John had left, He began to speak to the multitudes about John, 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?'"

Luke 7:25 "But what did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are splendidly clothed and live in luxury are found in royal palaces!"

Luke 7:28 "I say to you, among those born of women, there is no one greater than John; yet he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

C. To the Pharisees (Luke 7:30-35)

Luke 7:30 "But the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves, not having been baptized by John."

Luke 7:31-32 "31 To what then shall I compare the men of this generation, and what are they like? 32 They are like children who sit in the market place and call to one another; and they say, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.'"

III. Dealing With Doubt

A. Discern the **Cause** of Your Doubt

B. **Share** Your Doubts With a Mature Christian

C. View Your Doubt as an Opportunity to **Grow**

- Turn your doubts into **questions**.
- Turn your questions to **prayers**.
- Turn your prayers to **God**.

(Mark Littleton)

D. Remember that Our Doubts Never **Diminish** God's Love

Conclusion