

Series: The Gospel of Luke

Sermon: Dealing With Doubts

Passage: Luke 7:18-35 (ESV)

Illustration:

Need: Times of doubt and questioning are normal for even the most faithful followers of Jesus.

I. A proven formula for doubting (7:18-20)

- Mis-expectation of how God is going to work. (**Luke 3:15-17**)
- Personal crisis. (**Luke 3:18-20**)
- Incomplete revelation.

II. The divine prescription for addressing doubts (7:21-23)

- Remember what was promised. (**Isa. 29:18; 35:5-6; 61:1-2**)
- Trust the eye witness testimony.

III. A kind tribute and explanation (7:24-35)

- John the Baptist was the promised messenger of Messiah. (**Mal. 3:1**)
- John was the greatest of the OT era of prophets with the greatest message.
- The least in the Kingdom have a greater message of salvation for all in Jesus.
- Those who rejected John were also those who rejected Jesus as Messiah.
- But God's plan is vindicated in the lives of those who are gloriously saved by faith in Jesus!

IV. Application for times of Doubting

- Expect waves of doubt to come in times of increased stress/difficulty.
- Don't waste time trying to hide your doubts. Be honest and bring them directly to Christ.
- Share your doubts with brothers and sisters who will encourage you and go to Jesus on your behalf.
- Trust what God's Word says by the eye witnesses who were there.
- Press on in faith believing!