

## **The Gospel of Luke**

### **Blessed Is He Who Does Not Fall Away Because of Me**

Luke 7:11-23

1. **Jesus Raises the Dead** (vs.11-17)

A. **The Journey and the Crowd** (v.11)

The distance from Capernaum to Nain was about twenty miles, and the massive crowd (cf. Luke 6:17) followed Jesus there.

B. **A Heart-Wrenching Scene** (v.12-14a)

Very few things could be compared to the tragedy of a widowed mother losing her only son. Jesus, moved with compassion, acted on her behalf.

C. **Jesus Raises the Dead Man** (vs.14b-15)

He has already healed the sick, restored sight to the blind, and cast out demons, but this is the first time when Jesus exercised power over death itself (cf. Luke 8:49ff; John 11:20ff).

D. **The Response of the People** (vs.16-17)

Fear and acclamation. The people responded properly to Jesus and His work.

2. **John The Baptist Asks if Jesus is the Expected One** (vs.18-20)

A. **John's Predicament** (v.18; cf. Luke 3:19-20; Matt 14:3-5; Mark 6:17-20)

After he baptized Jesus, John's ministry had intentionally faded to the background (cf. John 3:30). By this time, John was imprisoned for chastising king Herod Antipas for his incestuous adultery.

B. **John's Understandable Confusion** (vs.19-20)

The Jewish faithful hoped and waited for the Messiah, but often even their hopes were misguided because they misunderstood what He was going to do. John had a bout with doubt while in prison, and he sought out Jesus for the answer to his most important question.

3. **Jesus Answers John** (vs.21-23)

A. **Jesus Answers by Healing Many** (v.21)

The healings done by Jesus were never merely reckless displays of supernatural power; they were to show God's power and His approval of the gospel of Christ.

B. **Jesus Answers with a Message to John** (vs.22-23)

Jesus answers John's question with a resounding "Yes!" by referring to the miracles his disciples had witnessed along with Old Testament prophecies anticipating the Messiah (Isa 35:5-6; 61:1-2a; cf. 1 Ki 17:21-24).