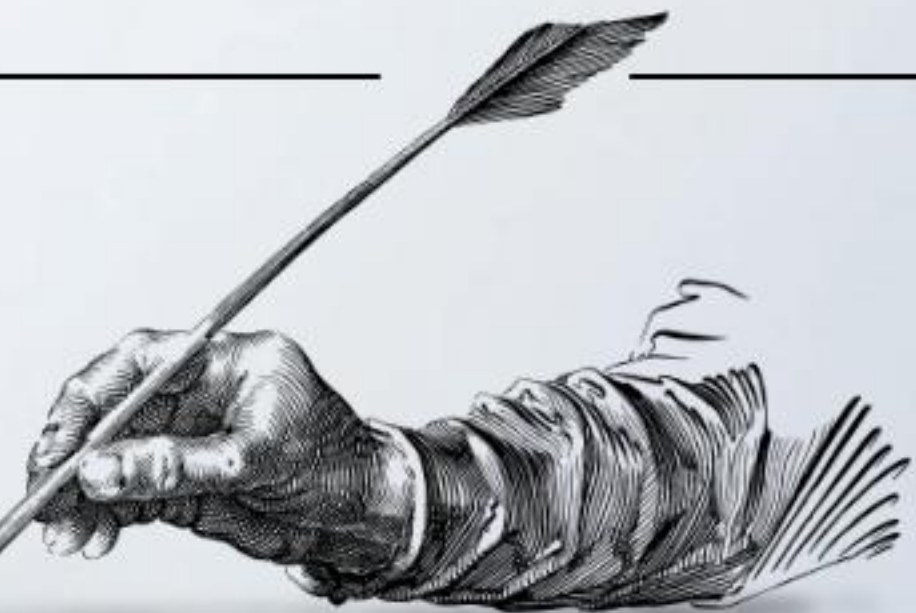


FAMILY BIBLE HOUR SERIES

# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

GOOD NEWS &  
GREAT JOY  
*for all people*





**Affirming a Doubting John the Baptist & Forgiving a Sinful Woman**

**Luke 7:18 - 50**

Can I know for sure I am going to heaven?

Why does an all-loving, all-powerful God allow so much suffering in the world?



Why doesn't God answer my prayers the way I thought He would?

Some godly men who questioned or doubted God and His ways:

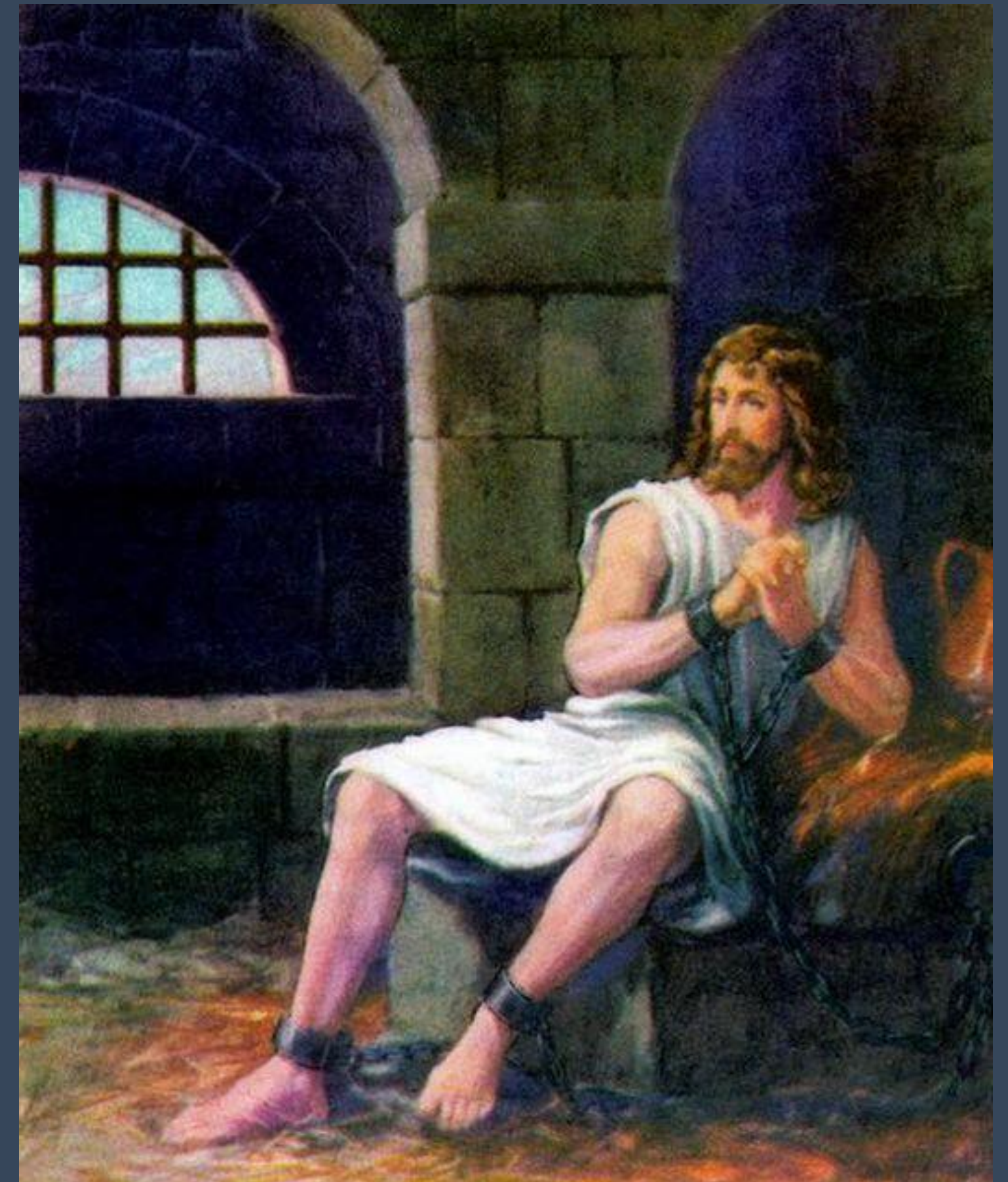
- Moses
- Zacharias
- Thomas
- John the Baptist

## *I. Jesus Power Seen In Affirming John the Baptist 7:18-35*

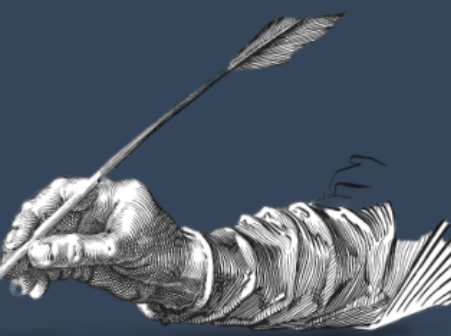
Mark 6:17 “For Herod himself had sent and had John arrested and bound in prison on account of Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip because he had married her.”

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

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?’”



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Warren Wiersbe: “There is a difference between doubt and unbelief. Doubt is a matter of the mind: we cannot understand what God is doing or why He is doing it.

Unbelief is a matter of the will: we refuse to believe God’s Word and obey what He tells us to do. In John’s case, his inquiry was not born of willful unbelief, but of doubt nourished by physical and emotional strain.”

Oswald Chambers: “Doubt is not always a sign that a man is wrong. it may be a sign that he is thinking!”



7:20-21 “And when the men had come to Him, they said, ‘John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, ‘Are You the Expected One, or do we look for someone else?’ At that very time He cured many people of diseases and afflictions and evil spirits; and He granted sight to many who were blind.”



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.’”

Isaiah 35:5,6: “Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped. Then the lame will leap like a deer, And the tongue of the dumb will shout for joy...”

7:23 “And blessed is he who keeps from stumbling over Me.”

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7:24-26 “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? 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. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and one who is more than a prophet.”



7:27 “This is the one about whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.’”

Malachi 3:1 “Behold, I send My messenger ahead of You (Jesus), Who will prepare Your way before You.”

John preached a message of baptism of repentance in preparation for Jesus public ministry. Jesus added to that message when He proclaimed in Mark 1:15: “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

Acts 17:30 “Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent,”

What does it mean to repent? The Greek term is *metanoia*, meaning a change of mind.

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.”

7:29 “And when all the people and the tax-gatherers heard *this*, they acknowledged God's justice, having been baptized with the baptism of John.”

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

7:31-35 “To what then shall I compare the men of this generation, and what are they like? 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.’ For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine; and you say, ‘He has a demon!’ The Son of Man has come eating and drinking; and you say, ‘Behold, a gluttonous man, and a drunkard, a friend of tax-gatherers and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by all her children.”

## *II. Jesus Power Seen In Forgiving a Sinful Woman 7:36-50*

7:36 “Now one of the Pharisees was requesting Him to dine with him. And He entered the Pharisee's house, and reclined at the table.”

7:37 “And behold, there was a woman in the city who was a sinner; and when she learned that He was reclining at the table in the Pharisee's house, she brought an alabaster vial of perfume,”



7:38 “And standing behind *Him* at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and kept wiping them with the hair of her head, and kissing His feet, and anointing them with the perfume.”



7:39 “Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he said to himself, ‘If this man were a prophet, He would know who and what sort of person this woman is who is touching Him, that she is a sinner.’”

7:40-42 “And Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Simon, I have something to say to you.’ And he replied, ‘Say it, Teacher.’ ‘A certain moneylender had two debtors: one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. When they were unable to repay, he graciously forgave them both. Which of them therefore will love him more?’”

7:43 Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have judged correctly."

7:44a “And turning toward the woman, He said to Simon, ‘Do you see this woman...?’”

7:44b-47 “I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears, and wiped them with her hair. You did not anoint My head with oil, but she anointed My feet with perfume. For this reason, I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little.”

7:48-49 “And He said to her, ‘Your sins have been forgiven. And those who were reclining at the table with Him began to say to themselves, ‘Who is this man who even forgives sins?’”



Luke 5:18-26

7:50 “And He said to the woman, ‘Your faith has saved you; go in peace.’”

Eph 2:8.9 “For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast.”

Romans 5:1 “Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ”

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7:45 Jesus said to Simon, “you gave me no kiss, but she, since the time I came in has not ceased to kiss my feet”

One of the Greek words for worship in the NT is *Proskuneo* meaning to kiss the hand... to fall on the knees out of reverence, respect and homage.

This is a wonderful metaphor of what our heart of worship for the Lord Jesus should be from us who have been forgiven much.

Ephesians 1:7 “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace”

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