

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

JESUS CHRIST THE SON OF MAN

LUKE CHAPTER 7:18-35

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SMX-609 OCTOBER 15, 2006

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"WHY DO WE STRUGGLE WITH DOUBT?" – PART 2

*THE HUMANITY AND DIVINITY OF JESUS CHRIST,
THE SON OF GOD, AND THE SON OF MAN*

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Faith, Doubt, Service, Ministry, Ability

The Case: 18-21

In the midst of the greatest messenger this world has ever know, in the face of whom, the vary Bible itself was written of, and being able to physically see Jesus Christ face to face, Doubt arises in the most unlikely places!

Then the disciples of John reported to him concerning all these things. 19 And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to Jesus, saying, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" :20 When the men had come to Him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to You, saying, 'Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?'" 21 And that (or in that) very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight.

The Cure: 22-28

Jesus will combat fear and doubt with reality. he will produce evidence that demands a verdict. Jesus will bring all those with whom he comes in contact with to make a decision based upon the facts.

:22 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them. 23 And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me." :24 When the messengers of John had departed, He began to speak to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 25 But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed those who are gorgeously appareled and live in luxury are in kings' courts. 26 But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to

you, and more than a prophet. 27 This is he of whom it is written: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You." 28 For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

The Call: 29-35

Once become aware of what Jesus Christ has said and done, we placed in the seat of passing judgment. each and every human being will be given the opportunity to make a determination about Jesus Christ in this life. Their judgment of God lies in accepting or rejecting his invitation to believe in Him.

:29 And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. 30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him. :31 And the Lord said, "To what then shall I liken the men of this generation, and what are they like? 32 They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, saying: "We played the flute for you, And you did not dance; We mourned to you, And you did not weep." 33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, "He has a demon." 34 The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, "Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!" 35 But wisdom is justified by all her children."

WHY DO WE STRUGGLE WITH DOUBT?

1.) Because doubt comes natural

Even Within The Perfection of The Garden of Eden,
Eve was Brought by Temptation to the Place of Doubt.

What Might Be The Most Disgusting Verse in The Bible,

Genesis 3:1

"Satan said to the woman, **"Did God really say, (is that what God said?)**
'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

2.) Because doubt won't disappoint

Doubt, Never expects anything to happen.
it has no target to hit, no goals to reach, it's content to bury what it has rather than risk anything.

WHY DO WE STRUGGLE WITH DOUBT?

3.) *Because doubt gets nothing done*

Doubt Passionately Argues *why this or that can never be done.*
Doubt can give you all the reasons why something is impossible and how it will never work.

4.) *Because doubt opposes faith*

5.) *Because doubt is easier*

6.) *Because doubt questions God's promises*

2 Corinthians 1:19

For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us—by me, and Silvanus, and Timothy—the message was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes. **(Christ is The Divine - Yes)** 20
For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.

The Bible Says;

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ**, (1) he is a new creation;
(2) old things have passed away; behold, (3) all things have become new.

As a New Creation in Christ, (the qualifier - "IN" Christ)
You are No Longer Living for This World and the Things of This World.

"Truth Is; Now You Use The Things of This World for His Glory"

A Real Christian Has Been Given a New Nature

Like a Key in a Lock, The Relationship Between the Two Opens Up to Us a New World.

Ephesians 4:23-24

"and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on **the new man** which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

This 'New Man' or 'New Person'
is all about living now - - "In Christ"

John 3:3,7

Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is **born (recreated) again (from above)**, he cannot see the kingdom of God." ... **7** Do not marvel that I said to you, "You must be **born (recreated) again (from above)**,

Philippians 3:20

For our **citizenship** is in heaven (**above**), from which we also eagerly wait (**from above**) the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

God's Promises Challenged...

... "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?"

when we doubt the Lord's promises,
we are challenging His authority and

.....
Verses 22-23
.....

The Cure for Doubting God's Promises...

:22 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them. 23 And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me."

"Tell John, The Word of God, The Bible, is Being Fulfilled"

By-The-Way, Along-The-Way

A Real Christian Preaches the Kingdom of God, While Comforting a World of Hurt.

WHY DO WE STRUGGLE WITH DOUBT?

7.) Because doubt resists letting go

When We Live by Faith,

we rest in the hands of God. we needn't worry,
fret or panic about the things that seem to go against us.

1 Peter 5:5b

be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." **6** Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

When We "Surrender" to Jesus Everything,

We Have Nothing to Defend Anymore // Nothing to Protect Anymore
because what we have, what we are about, what we are - is His!!!

*if we, if you and I truly have real faith in God, a resting faith in God, then
we will receive the things that come to us, as being father filtered,
things that the Lord is aware of.*

When We Doubt, We Seek to Control.

"To 'Not Let Go', Is To Seek to Control"

Christian, Listen Carefully;

"Jesus Christ is Lord.

And 'Lord' Means He's, - Master, Boss, Overseer of Our Lives"

You Cannot Have Jesus as Your Savior
and Not as Your Lord.

The Rich, Young, Ruler, Moralists

Matthew 19:20

The young man said to Him, "All these things I have kept from my youth. What do I still lack?" :21
Jesus said to him, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will
have treasure in heaven;
and come, follow Me." - ***I will lead your life from here on out!***

Doubt is a Spiritual Cancer.

"doubt" comes from information, or knowledge
used in an unauthorized way.

cancer is like that.

***It's a runaway or rogue cell. It's a cell that decides to do its own thing
in an unauthorized way.***

when it does its own thing,
it becomes a cancer and it can kill you if given enough time, or neglect

Taking Back - Mind Control

2 Corinthians 10:4-5

For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing every thought into captivity** to the obedience of Christ,

The Bible is Full of Examples of Men and Women Finding.... "The End of Themselves"

Matthew 14:25-31

Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. **26** And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. **:27** But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "**Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid.**" **:28** And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." **:29** So He said, "**Come.**" And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. **30** But **when he saw that the wind** was boisterous, he was afraid; and he, beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" **:31** And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, "**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?**"

What a Great Example of Faith and Doubt.

(personally, I think Peter was absolutely awesome in this event)

Now, Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. 26 And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!"

And they cried out for fear... :28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water."

What Was Peter Thinking?

"this boat's going down - I'm outta here"

"that's it, first the storm, now a ghost, I can't take anymore"

"I sure wish I was with Jesus right now?"

"Lord, If That's You, Tell Me to Come Out Onto The Water"

Peter Knew Jesus Enough to Know That...

If That's Him - - "He'll ask me to do the impossible, and right now walking out of this situation is impossible, I would rather try the impossible with Jesus than to sit here and sink with these guys."

30 But **when Peter saw that the wind** was boisterous, he was afraid (fear breeds doubt); and he, beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" **:31** And immediately Jesus stretched out *His* hand and caught him, and said to him, "**O you of little faith, why did you doubt?**"

Because I became "afraid", I became "scared" because "I saw" how big the waves were, then "those things" caused me to doubt what you had said Jesus, which was "Come", Not Drown, Sink, Swim, or Good Luck Peter

WHY DO WE STRUGGLE WITH DOUBT?

8.) *Because doubt rejects the hope of God* v.29-35

:29 And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. 30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him. :31 And the Lord said, "To what then shall I liken the men of this generation, and what are they like? 32 They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, saying: "We played the flute for you, And you did not dance; We mourned to you, And you did not weep.' 33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, "He has a demon.' 34 The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, "Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' 35 But wisdom is justified by all her children."

Verses 29-30

:29 And when all the people heard Him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. 30 But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him.

Verses 35

But wisdom is justified by all her children."

The "Children of Unbelief and Doubt", live like it
The "Children of Belief and Faith", they too live like it.

You Will Become More and More
Like That Which You Follow.

John 3:14-19

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, **15 (+1)** that **whoever believes in Him should not perish** but have eternal life. **16** For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, **(+2)** that **whoever believes in Him should not perish** but have everlasting life. **17** For God did not send His Son into the world **(+3)** to **condemn the world**, but that the world through Him **(+4)** might **be saved**.

:18 "He who believes in Him **(+5)** is not condemned; but he who **(-1)** does not believe is condemned already, because he **(+2)** has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. **19** And this is the condemnation, **(-3)** that the light has come into the world, and **(+4)** men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

WHY DO WE STRUGGLE WITH DOUBT?

9.) *Because doubt refuses to accept the love of God*

Doubt Says Things Like,
I'm Not Worthy of God's Love

(the fundamental reality & problem with that line of thinking is,
it's both **True** and **Wrong** at the same time!)

It is True, we are not worthy of God's love.
but Wrong in thinking it's not available to you.

The Question Becomes;
"Do You Want To Know The Love of God for Your Life?"

Acts 13:45

But when the Jewish *leadership* saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy; and contradicting and blaspheming, they opposed the things spoken by Paul (the gospel of God). **46** Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and **judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life**, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.

Please Don't Make The Same Mistake They Did,
They refused to believe it was for them.

Doubt Says Things Like,

"But Jack, Why Do I Need Jesus?
why can't I pick one of the many other religious leaders in history?"

Acts 1:2-3

for, until the day he ascended back up to heaven Jesus gave his apostles further instructions from the Holy Spirit. :3 During those forty days after his crucifixion, he appeared to the apostles often showing them that he was indeed the Christ by many infallible proofs and spoke to them about the Kingdom of God.

Luke 24:25-27, 30-32

Then He said to them, ***“O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?” 27*** And beginning at **Moses** and all the **Prophets**, He **expounded (gave a complete explanation)** to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself... :30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave it to them. **31** Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight. :32 And they said to one another, ***“Did not our heart burn within us while He talked with us on the road, and while He opened (unlocked) the Scriptures to us?”***

This Can't be True, It's Great News,
It's Wonderful, It's Exactly What I Need.
I Wish I Could Have That, I Can't Have, Not Worthy of It...

Listen - and get this...

Ephesians 3:12

It is Jesus Christ, "in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

2 Timothy 1:12b

...for I **know** in whom I have **believed** and I am **persuaded**, that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him (*his very soul, his eternal life, the guaranteed assurance of forever*) until that Day.

God's Love Toward You and I
is Not Based Upon Our Worthiness or Our Righteous Performances.

Romans 3:20

Therefore by the **deeds** (works) of the **law** (the requirements) there shall no **flesh** be justified (without sin) in his sight:

Among the Legalists, The Ultimate Sign of Commitment was Circumcision

Galatians 6:15

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

Galatians 5:6

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love.

Philippians 3:3

For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,

Acts 10:44

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. **45** And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

WHY DO WE STRUGGLE WITH DOUBT?

10.) *Because doubt unchecked, leads to unbelief*

Matthew 28-17

When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; but some doubted.

John 20:24-29

Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. **(why? where was he?) (answer, he wasn't there because he was in another place - he went to doubt-town, doubtersville, doubt-o-rama)**

...**25** The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." **:26** And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" **27** Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing." **:28** And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" **:29** Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed."

Thomas Got His Doubt Checked -

and took the gospel message to north Africa and India where he was martyred.

Doubt will come and go, and for those who serve God faithfully, doubt is a constant struggle, "Am I being faithful Lord, is this the right direction to go Lord, Is my family serving you well Lord..."

But Understand This,
Doubt is Different Than Unbelief. – But...

If Doubt is Not Attacked Daily, It Could Lead to Unbelief,
and unbelief can kill.

Doubt
is a matter of the emotions and mind

Unbelief
is a matter of will and heart

Hebrews 4:11

Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest,
lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.

every time we open the Bible here,
we are conducting a "Slay Doubt and Unbelief" campaign.
every time we study the Bible here,
we are attacking Fear and Apathy.

Today, are you struggling with doubt?

1 John 3:18-21

My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but **indeed** and in **truth**. **19** And by this we know that we are **of the truth**, and shall **assure** our hearts (slay doubt) before Him. **20** For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. **21** Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

**Today is The Day That You are Going to
"Assure" Your Heart Before Him.**

Today is Going to be a Great Day,
Here's Why, For Many of You, You Have Struggled with Assurance of Salvation.
there has been a sense of insecurity or question.

**There's Something Very Powerful About Crossing The
Finishing Line.**

it removes all doubt about finishing, about the race, about the course.

Today, We're Gonna "Cross the Line"

and doing so, we Slam the Door on Doubt in This Area.

Remember This;

Luke 12:31

But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. :32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Hebrews 13:5c

I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Jeremiah 31:3

"I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.

Romans 8:34

Who *is* he who condemns (able or qualified)? *It is* Christ who died, (purchased, own, possess) and furthermore is also risen, (assured, confirmed) who is even at the right hand of God, (guaranteed) who also makes intercession for us. (lifts us up)

Zephaniah 3:17

The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love, he will rejoice over you with singing."

————— *End of Study* —————