

JOHN THE BAPTIST

“PREACHER OF RIGHTEOUSNESS”

Luke 7:15-24

Lesson #5

August 9, 2017

REVIEW:

A. John's Question. Luke 7:15-20

- 1) The spreading of the report about Jesus
- 2) John is imprisoned and his disciples report these things to him.
- 3) John calls two of them to take a question to Jesus.
- 4) (Vs. 19) “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?”
- 5) Now, remember all that happened...
- 6) What does this question infer?
 - a) Everything I **SAW AND HEARD** was wrong
 - b) Everything I **BELIEVED** was wrong
 - c) Everything I **HOPED FOR** was wrong
- 7) If you were going through this, what would be your state of mind?

B. John's Answer. Luke 7:21-23

- 1) Go tell John the things you have seen and heard
- 2) Jesus doesn't say ‘Of course I am, don't you remember?’
 - a) Aren't there answers you wish you would get from God?
 - b) Should I keep going? Is it okay if I stop?

- 3) Jesus answer is not direct, but simply connecting what we **HEARD** with what **IS** not what we **EXPECTED TO BE**
- 4) It is easy for us all to **EXPECT** something to be, because we see it as **GOOD**
- 5) “Blessed is he who is not offended...”

C. John and Elijah. Matthew 9:1-15

- 1) Both preached repentance and righteousness (holy living) not acceptance.
- 2) John had baptism, Elijah had miracles.
- 3) (Vs.11) “Why does your Teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”
 - a) People with this attitude ask questions to accuse not become informed
 - b) And ask the wrong people
- 4) Preachers of righteousness can leave a love of the people for a love **OF THE LAW**
- 5) We leave **SERVING IN** ministry for **PROTECTING THE** ministry.
- 6) We believe we are out in front, but actually we have **GONE AWAY**
- 7) Remember John's response to the Pharisees at first?
- 8) Now look at it in Vs. 14

APPLICATION: When we leave behind the **LOVE FOR** people in our work / ministry, the **LOVE OF** our work / ministry will soon follow, along with its joy.