



WALKING ON WATER
BIBLE CHURCH

GOD'S *Word* HAS THE LAST WORD

DEATH IS DEFEATED

LUKE 7:1-16



HE SEES
YOUR NEEDS



HE CARES
FOR YOU



HE SPEAKS
WITH AUTHORITY



HE REIGNS
OVER DEATH

BIBLICAL COMPASSION. DIVINE POWER. KINGDOM PURPOSE.

Pastor Mike Holloway



Luke 7:11-16

11 Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd.

12 And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her.

Luke 7:11-16

13 When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.”

14 Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.”

15 So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

Luke 7:11-16

16 Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has risen up among us”; and, “God has visited His people.”

BIG IDEA

The Lord of Life meets a procession of death.

Jesus does not merely sympathize with human brokenness.

He reveals the compassion of God, the power of His Word, and the arrival of God's Kingdom.

Jesus is the Messiah-King who has authority over the very things that break us.

THE SETTING: TWO CROWDS COLLIDE

Luke 7:11–12

Jesus approaches Nain with His disciples and a large crowd.

A second large crowd is leaving the city in a funeral procession.

One crowd is following Jesus; the other is following a coffin.

One crowd walks with Life; the other walks with death.

At the city gate, the two crowds meet.

THE SETTING: TWO CROWDS COLLIDE

Luke 7:11–12

**At the city gate, death was on its way out carrying its victim—but Life was on His way in.
And death's procession could go no farther.**

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

THE HUMAN CRISIS

Jesus sees the totality of her need.

The dead man is the woman's ONLY son.

She is already a WIDOW.

Her grief is emotional, relational, social, and potentially economic.

She is not merely burying someone she loves—she may be burying her security and future.

He saw a woman whose **entire world had collapsed.**

1. JESUS SEES WHAT OTHERS MAY OVERLOOK

Luke 7:13

The text never says the widow approached Jesus.

She never asks Him for a miracle.

She does not make a public confession of faith.

Before she speaks—JESUS SEES HER.

His attention is drawn to a person whose world has collapsed.

APPLICATION: HE SEES THE WHOLE PERSON

Psalm 34:15

God sees needs we can explain—and needs we cannot put into words.

He sees spiritual, emotional, relational, and practical burdens.

He sees what happened to you.

He also sees what what happened to you has done to you.

Your pain is never invisible to Christ.

2. JESUS IS MOVED WITH COMPASSION

Luke 7:13

“When the LORD saw her, his heart went out to her...”

His compassion is not condescending pity.

It is deep, loving concern that moves Him toward human suffering.

His greatness does not make Him insensitive.

The Lord of all still notices one grieving widow.

THE GREATNESS OF CHRIST

Hebrews 4:15

He possesses authority over creation—yet cares about one woman's tears.

He commands angels—yet notices the brokenhearted.

He rules the Kingdom—yet stops for the hurting.

His greatness does not distance Him from suffering.

His compassion moves Him TOWARD suffering.

3. “DON’T CRY” — JESUS IS ABOUT TO ACT

Luke 7:13

Jesus is not rebuking legitimate grief.

His command anticipates His intervention.

She sees a funeral already in progress.

She sees a cemetery ahead.

Jesus knows something she does not know: He is about to interrupt the funeral.

APPLICATION: WHAT LOOKS FINAL TO US

Hope without presumption

Human perspective often concludes: “It’s over.”

But we do not know what God knows.

This text does NOT promise that every earthly tragedy will be immediately reversed.

It DOES reveal that death never has the final word over those who belong to Christ.

Jesus does.

4. JESUS TOUCHES THE BIER

Luke 7:14

Jesus approaches and touches the funeral bier or litter.

Contact with death was associated with ceremonial uncleanness (Numbers 19:11, 16).

The bearers immediately stop.

The funeral procession is interrupted.

Death does not contaminate Jesus—His life and holiness confront death.

THE PROCESSION STOPS

A dramatic Kingdom moment

The pallbearers stop.

The mourners stop.

The crowd following Jesus stops.

The movement toward the grave stops.

Jesus has stepped into death's procession.

5. THE POWER IS IN HIS WORD

Luke 7:14

Jesus says: “Young man, I say to you, GET UP!”

He performs no ritual.

He appeals to no higher earthly authority.

He simply speaks.

The authority is inherent in the command of Christ.

CONNECT TO LUKE 7:1–10

Just Say “The Word”

The centurion had already said: “Say the word, and my servant will be healed.”

In the first scene, Christ’s Word conquers sickness from a distance.

In Nain, Christ’s Word conquers death at a funeral.

The dead man hears the voice of the Lord of Life.

His Word is sufficient because His authority is absolute.

APPLICATION: DON'T LOSE CONFIDENCE IN THE V

Information before fascination

Our culture prizes spectacle, novelty, and experience.

Even churches can seek demonstration while neglecting revelation.

Luke keeps emphasizing the authority of Christ's Word.

The church must never become ashamed of Scripture.

God's Word informs faith, shapes life, and proclaims the Christ who raises the dead.

6. THIS MIRACLE DID NOT DEPEND ON HUMAN FAITH

Luke 7:14–15

The dead young man exercises no faith—he is dead.

The widow is not described as exercising miracle-producing faith.

No one requests the resurrection.

The miracle rests upon Christ's sovereign authority.

His power is not created by the intensity of human belief.

THE EVIDENCE OF REAL LIFE

Luke 7:15

“The dead man sat up...”

“...and began to talk.”

Luke gives observable evidence of genuine restoration.

This is not suggestion, emotion, or symbolism.

The one who was dead is now alive.

7. “JESUS GAVE HIM BACK TO HIS MOTHER”

Luke 7:15

Jesus does more than display resurrection power.

He restores a relationship.

He restores a family.

He addresses the consequences death brought into the widow's life.

His compassion is personal, practical, and relational.

APPLICATION: CHRIST CARES ABOUT TOTAL WELL

1 Peter 5:7

Your spiritual life matters to Him.

Your grief matters.

Your family matters.

Your fears and burdens matter.

This is not a promise of immediate removal of every problem—it is a revelation of God's compassionate character.

AN OLD TESTAMENT ECHO

1 Kings 17:17–24

1 Kings 17:23: Elijah raises a widow's son and “gave him to his mother.”

Luke intentionally echoes Elijah's ministry.

But Elijah cries out to God for the child.

Jesus directly commands the dead.

The people see a great prophet—but Luke wants us to see Someone greater.

8. JESUS IS DOING WHAT THE PROPHETS SAID

Luke 7:20–23

Isaiah 35:5–6: blind eyes opened, deaf ears unstopped, lame people restored.

Isaiah 61:1: good news proclaimed to the poor.

Luke 7:22: blind see, lame walk, deaf hear, dead are raised, poor hear good news.

Jesus points to His works as evidence of His identity.

The prophetic promises are being fulfilled before their eyes.

9. THE KINGDOM HAS ARRIVED

Luke 4:43

These miracles are not random displays of power.

They are SIGNS of God's saving reign breaking into history.

Every healing is a preview.

Every deliverance is a declaration.

Every resurrection points toward the defeat of death.

The Kingdom is present because the KING is present.

ALREADY — BUT NOT YET

1 Corinthians 15:25–26

Christ has inaugurated the Kingdom.

Yet sickness, suffering, and death still remain in the present age.

We await the Kingdom's complete consummation.

Christ reigns until every enemy is placed under His feet.

“The last enemy to be destroyed is death.”

10. “GOD HAS VISITED HIS PEOPLE”

Luke 7:16

The crowd is filled with holy awe and glorifies God.

They declare: “A great prophet has appeared among us.”

Then: “God has come to help His people.”

This echoes Old Testament visitation language.

God’s promises, salvation, and Kingdom are breaking into history through Jesus.

HE IS MORE THAN A PROPHET

Who is this Jesus?

The crowd correctly recognizes a great prophet.

But Luke has already called Jesus “THE LORD” (7:13).

He is Prophet—but more than a prophet.

He is Messiah.

He is Lord.

He is King.

NAIN POINTS TO A GREATER RESURRECTION

Romans 6:9

The widow's son was raised, but would eventually die again.

Jesus would enter death Himself.

But Christ would rise never to die again.

“Death no longer has mastery over him.”

At Nain Jesus interrupted one funeral; in His resurrection He broke death's ultimate claim.

FINAL APPLICATION: WHEN LIFE MEETS DEATH

Take this truth home

JESUS SEES YOU — your pain does not escape His attention.

JESUS CARES FOR YOU — your suffering does not leave Him unmoved.

JESUS HAS AUTHORITY — He rules over what you cannot control.

JESUS IS THE PROMISED KING — His works announce the arrival of God's Kingdom.

JESUS HAS THE LAST WORD — even over death.

ONE DAY EVERY GRAVE WILL HEAR HIS VOICE

John 5:28–29

In Luke 7, one dead man hears the voice of Jesus and rises.

John 5:28–29 says a time is coming when all who are in the graves will hear His voice.

The miracle at Nain is a preview of a much greater day.

The Lord who spoke to one young man will summon the dead.

Our hope rests in the authority of the risen Christ.

SERMON CLOSE

Because when Jesus meets death—JESUS WINS.

When Jesus shows up, He brings the Kingdom with Him.

He sees the overlooked.

He cares for the hurting.

He comforts the grieving.

He speaks with authority.

He fulfills the prophets.

He proves that death does not get the last word.