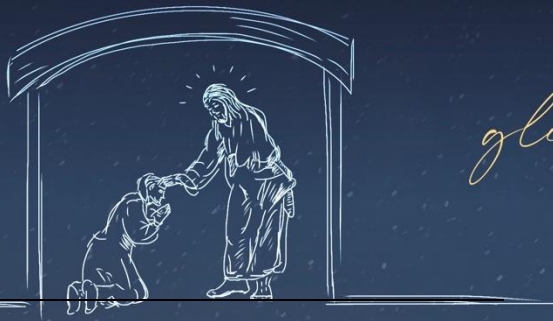


THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



*glimpses
of glory*

MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD

MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE, KRISTELE CHAVEZ, LENNY TROCHE

DATE: JUNE 4, 2023

The Tragedy of Rejecting the Proclamation & Arrival of God's Kingdom Luke 7:28-35

Review

- John's mission and relationship to God's coming were foretold.
Luke 1:16 And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, **17** and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."
- Jesus's identity and the mixed responses to his ministry were foretold.
Luke 1:32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David...
Luke 2:34 ..."Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed **35**... so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

Life in God's Kingdom Eclipses the Mosaic Covenant

Luke 7:28 I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

John 1:12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God...**15** John bore witness about him..."

Acts 13:38 Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, **39** and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses.

The Message of God's Kingdom Reveals the Listener's True Heart

1. Hopeful "repenters" joyfully anticipate the imminent arrival of God's Kingdom.
Luke 7:29 When all the people heard this, and the tax collectors too, they declared God just, having been baptized with the baptism of John...
2. Self-righteous "rejecters" stubbornly deny a Kingdom at odds with their expectations.
Luke 7:30 ...but the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected the purpose of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him. (Recall Luke 3:7-13.)

The Value of God's Kingdom Defies the Ignorant Criticism of the Self-Righteous

1. **John and Jesus defied the expectations of the self-righteous.**
Luke 7:31 "To what then shall I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? 32 They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not weep.'
2. **John and Jesus's refusal to conform to preconceptions produced hostile contempt.**
Luke 7:33 For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon.' 34 The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'
3. **John and Jesus's ministry is authenticated by the fruit of repentance and faith.**
Luke 7:35 Yet wisdom is justified by all her children."

Reflection/Discussion

1. In reading John 1:12-13 and Acts 13:38-39, life in God's kingdom is a new father/child relationship with God characterized by freedom from sin, shame and guilt. How do Jesus's words about your status in Luke 7:28 make you feel? What is your response to this new status through Christ?
2. Think of a person or group you may hold in contempt for their unrighteous behavior. Commit to praying for their reconciliation with God through faith in Jesus.
3. Jesus comments that "wisdom is justified by all her children". Would outside observers "declare God just" in view of your life as one who is born of God through repentance and faith? Identify one area in which you want God's kingship to be more evident. Bring that issue to your Father each day this week and ask him to guide your actions or words.

SONGS

"GRATEFUL"

"ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING"

"ALWAYS GOOD"

"CHRIST BE ALL AROUND ME"

Crossing Music Pastor: Dan Gillette (dan@vbc.online)

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 24,402.34
WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,985.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$ 724,081.75
Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$ 813,670.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:
(Last Entry - 05/31) \$ 78,804.78

VBC FAMILY ROSTER



Note: Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please deposit the envelopes in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!