

September 18, 2022

**Sermon Summary**  
**Escape from Doubting Castle**  
**Luke 7:18-28**

**Doubting John**

John the Baptist has been imprisoned because he had spoken out against King Herod and as John awaits his fate in this dungeon, he receives word from his followers about Christ's ministry. Considering John's condition, it is easy to understand why he would be going through a season of doubt. John believed that his message was going to prepare hearts for repentance and Christ's message would be a message of judgement but from John's perspective the total opposite is happening! Jesus is healing and raising the dead, He is being merciful and compassionate towards those that are coming to Him, instead of condemning the world. John is doubting because Jesus is not necessarily living up to what he expected the Messiah to be. How does Christ address John's doubt? By pointing to how He is fulfilling what the Scriptures said of Him. John didn't need a new revelation; He just needed a clearer one or a refreshing of the revelation that he already had.

**Doubting Saints**

Throughout Scripture John the Baptist was not the first saint to doubt. Abraham, Elijah, and Peter all had their doubts but that did not stop the Lord from keeping His promises. These men all believed but they also had doubts but God's response is largely the same to all these men. He never responds with condemnation. He never responds by removing His presence. He always responds by inviting them in for a closer look of who He is.

**Confronting our Doubts**

When believers go through times of doubt, they must ask in who or what they are doubting. Are they doubting God or are they doubting something within themselves? Are you questioning God's ability to provide or are you questioning your own ability to obtain that which you need? The next we need to do to address our doubts is to bring our soul to trial. Our hearts need to go under the knife. We need to ask ourselves some tough questions. We must ask ourselves why we are doubting? Finally, we must always remember that by God's perfect providence, you are exactly where you need to be in order to see His goodness and His glory. If you are waiting for your life and circumstances to be perfect in order to take that next step of faith, you're always going to be exactly where you are. You just need to go and walk in faith and trust God to move.