

From Compassion to Action to Glory

We serve a relational God, who seeks to identify with His creation. The concept of this type of God was revolutionary, not only during the first century, but in the entire history of human existence. When Jesus comes, He is the exact representation of the Father. We seek to emulate the Son in all we do. And who is He? Our story in Luke 11 today helps us to understand. Jesus is the Son of God, who moves with compassion and power. We see the story progress from compassion, to action, and lead ultimately to glory.

I. 7:11-12a - Providence

- A. 7:11 - Jesus travels to Nain, a non-descript place around 20 miles SW of Capernaum.
 - 1. 7:11 - *He was on his way to a town called **Nain***. This is no accident.
- B. 7:12a - When Jesus Arrives
 - 1. 7:12a: *Just as he neared the gate of the town, a dead man was being **carried out***.
 - 2. Jesus arrives at the exact place at the exact moment where God's purpose can be brought forth. Everything has been orchestrated perfectly.

II. 7:12b-13 - Compassion

- A. The Moment
 - 1. 7:12c - the funeral is over. They are carrying the body to the place of burial.
- B. The Widow's Only Son
 - 1. 7:12b - Luke adds: *he was his mother's only son, and she was a **widow***.
 - 2. The death of one's only son was the absolute worst.
 - 3. Jeremiah 6:26: **Mourn as you would for an only son, a bitter lament, ...**
- C. A God of Compassion
 - 1. 7:13 - *When the Lord saw her, he had **compassion** on her and said, "Don't weep."*
 - 2. Jesus is moved to the depths of His heart.
 - 3. 7:13 - "Don't **weep**." Heartfelt expression of care.

III. 7:14-15 - Power

- A. 7:14 - don't miss the drama of this moment.
- B. 7:14a - Jesus **touch***ed* the open coffin. Jesus is violating every protocol.
- C. 7:14b - *and he said, "Young man, I tell you, **get up!**"*
- D. 7:15a - the dead man sat up and began to speak.
- E. 7:15b - Jesus gave him to his mother.

IV. 7:16-17 - Proclamation

- A. 7:16a - *Then **fear** came over everyone...*
- B. 7:16b - *they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen among us," and "God has **visited** His people."* God came to help us.

V. As We Close...

- A. How strong is our commitment to God's purposes?
- B. Will you pray to be an instrument of His providence?
- C. Will you feel the way Jesus did?
- D. Will we point them to Jesus' power?
- E. Will we proclaim it? *God has come to help.*