

# TRANSFORMING LOVE

“Are You The One?” | Luke 7:18-30

<sup>18</sup> John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them,  
<sup>19</sup> he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"



20 When the men came to Jesus, they said, “John the Baptist sent us to you to ask,

‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?’”



<sup>21</sup> At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind.

<sup>22</sup> So he replied to the messengers,



“Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

<sup>23</sup> Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”



<sup>24</sup> After John's messengers left, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind?"



25 If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear expensive clothes and indulge in luxury are in palaces.

26 But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.



27 This is the one about whom it is written:

“I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

28 I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”





29 (All the people, even the tax collectors, when they heard Jesus' words, acknowledged that God's way was right, because they had been baptized by John.



<sup>30</sup> But the Pharisees and the experts in the law rejected God's purpose for themselves, because they had not been baptized by John.)

—Luke 7:18-30



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<sup>20</sup> When the men came to Jesus, they said, “John the Baptist sent us to you to ask,

‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?’”

—Luke 7:20



23 Blessed is anyone who does not  
stumble on account of me.”

—Luke 7:23



28 I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

—Luke 7:28



1. Jesus questions the doubt **and**,
2. He affirms the doubter.



<sup>18</sup> John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them,

<sup>19</sup> he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you **the one who is to come**, or should we expect someone else?"

—Luke 7:18-19





27 This is the one about whom it is written:

“‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

—Luke 7:27



29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

—John 1:29



18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for  
the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

—Luke 4:18-19



“Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

—Luke 7:22



# GOD MOVES IN MYSTERIOUS WAYS

by William Cowper (1731–1800)

God moves in a mysterious way,  
His wonders to perform;  
He plants his footsteps in the sea,  
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines  
Of never failing skill,  
He treasures up his bright designs,  
And works his sovereign will.

Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take,  
The clouds ye so much dread  
are big with mercy, and shall break  
In blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,  
But trust him for his grace;  
Behind a frowning providence,  
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,  
Unfolding every hour;  
The bud may have a bitter taste,  
But sweet will be the flower.

Blind unbelief is sure to err,  
And scan his work in vain;  
God is his own interpreter,  
And he will make it plain.

“Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

—Luke 7:22

<sup>29</sup> (All the people, even the tax collectors, when they heard Jesus' words, acknowledged that God's way was right, because they had been baptized by John.

—Luke 7:29



<sup>27</sup> But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

<sup>28</sup> God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are,  
—1 Corinthians 1:27-28





If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness.

—2 Corinthians 11:30



I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. <sup>24</sup> Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. <sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, <sup>26</sup> I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from



rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. <sup>27</sup> I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.

- 2 Corinthians 11:23-27



<sup>30</sup> But the Pharisees and the experts in the law rejected God's purpose for themselves, because they had not been baptized by John.)

—Luke 7:30



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26 But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.

—Luke 7:24-26



28 I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

—Luke 7:28





27 This is the one about whom it is written:

“‘I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’

—Luke 7:27



<sup>30</sup> He must become greater; I must become less.”

—John 3:30



28 I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; **yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.**”

—Luke 7:28



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