

Apply The Word

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Message Info

Title:

The Compassionate Promised One

Speaker:

Chris Patton

Date:

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Scriptures

Luke 7:11-17

Theme: Jesus is the Compassionate Promised One with power even over death.

Introduction: A certain suspense builds in this passage as we see a picture of Jesus interacting with people that leads us to wonder, "What kind of person is this?" As we read about the miracle of raising the widow's son, we come to realize that he is a powerful, compassionate savior who had come to deliver us from our hopeless situation.

1. His compassion

- a. The widow was suffering tremendously. She had lost her provision, her protection and her companionship. She was utterly alone. But when the Lord saw her, he had compassion. He was not unaware or indifferent to her suffering. His disposition is one of deep compassion.
- b. The fact that He doesn't always remove the suffering immediately doesn't mean that he doesn't care or doesn't see. Sometimes we don't understand why God chooses not to remove our suffering but we know that someday he will.

2. His power

- a. Jesus enters the town of Nain and comes upon a funeral procession. He says to the mother of the dead son, "don't weep". Then he draws near to the body, something no Jewish person would do. Jesus wasn't concerned with protocol or being ceremonially unclean. His concern was for this woman's sorrow and this man's state.
- b. Jesus has the power to bring this dead corpse to life. He has the power to bring real hope to people's lives and this is what he did for this mother. And this is what he has come to promise to all of us. Life after death!

3. His identity

- a. The people attending this funeral were filled with a deep sense of reverential awe and amazement at what they had just witnessed. They glorified God because they perceived that it was God who had done this miracle. They were witnessing the power of God and presence of God in and through Jesus.
- b. He was revealing himself to be the Coming One foretold by the OT prophets as the Messiah, the Son of God. He is in the process of revealing himself as God Himself come into the world to rescue and redeem lost sinners. His plan is to bring them into His eternal kingdom with resurrected bodies where sorrow, and sighing and tears are no more.

Questions

1. Is there presently suffering in your life that you are trying to understand and wanting God to remove?
2. In what ways are you experiencing his compassion and his power in your suffering?
3. How does this demonstration of God's power affect you?
4. What circumstances in your present life does the hope of the resurrection bring you comfort?