

## The Gospel of Luke 7:36–8:25

### Messiah astonishes everyone

02 November

#### Structure of Luke's Gospel

- 1 Preface: Sponsor, method and purpose.
- 2 Birth narratives: Dawn of the promised new era.
- 3 John's mission: Introduce the Messiah.
- 4 **Jesus' mission: Messiah's message and work.**
- 5 Journey: Messianic signs and teaching. Luke 9:51
- 6 Jerusalem: Confront Israelite and Roman rulers.
- 7 Crucifixion: Last supper, arrest, trials, death.
- 8 Resurrection: Alive, appearance, and proofs.
- 9 Ascension: Gives Holy Spirit, mission to nations.

#### Read Luke 7:36-37

##### Discuss

- Why 'recline' at table? (The wealthy lay on couches.)
- How did that woman get into the house? (It was customary to let folk listen to famous guests.)
- What was an alabaster jar of perfume for? (Store expensive substances.)

#### Read Luke 7:38

##### Myrrh

A gum-resin extracted from a number of small, thorny tree species of the genus *Commiphora*. Myrrh resin has been used throughout history as a perfume, incense and medicine. Myrrh mixed with posca\* or wine was widely used in many ancient cultures to produce pleasurable feelings and as an anti-inflammatory and analgesic [pain relief]. — *Wikipedia*

\* Mixture of water, vinegar, and wine.

#### Read Luke 7:39-40

##### Prophets

- Pagan: Soothsayers, philosophers, poets.
- Hebrew: Reliable seers who receive and deliver messages and miracles from God.
- Popular: Anyone who can reveal secrets.
- Christian: Fallible foretellers and forthtellers animated by the Holy Spirit.
- Charlatan: Performers who say whatever comes to mind, in a loud or falsetto voice.

#### Read Luke 7:41-43

**Forgive debts.** "Although debts were to be forgiven in the seventh year, experts in the law had found ways to get around that requirement. Creditors could have debtors imprisoned, temporarily enslaved, or have certain goods confiscated. This creditor goes beyond the letter of the law and extends mercy."  
(IVPbbc)

Read Luke 7:43-45



La présidente de la Commission européenne, Ursula von der Leyen (à gauche), embrasse le président ukrainien Volodymyr Zelensky à la suite d'une conférence de presse lors d'un sommet de l'UE à Bruxelles, le 9 février 2023. (AFP)

Luke 7:46-48

**Discuss:** How could Jesus forgive sins, before he died to forgive sins? See Romans 3:25.



Luke 7:43-44

**Faith**

Abstract

- Believe truth
- Trust promises
- Loyalty to someone

Applied

- Believe in God
- Trust Jesus to save
- Remain faithful

**Read Luke 7:49-50**

**Directions of faith**

Was it the quality of the woman's faith that moved God to heal her?  
Or was it the person in whom she had ordinary faith?



**Read Luke 8:22-25**

**Who is this man?**

- Atheism: Nobody. He never existed.
- New age: One of the great masters.
- Cults: The angel Michael.
- Islam: A dead, secondary prophet.
- Academia: An itinerate Jewish rabbi.
- Mormonism: A created man become a god.

**Jesus' miracles What did they show?**

- Healing: Mercy + divine power.
- Exorcism: Mercy + divine authority.
- Revive the dead: Mercy + life source.
- Command nature: Deity.
- Multiply food: Mercy + creative power.
- Coin in fish's mouth: Arrange coincidence.
- Resurrection: Creative power.

**Note:** Jesus never operated magical tricks or illusions, nor did he make living creatures.