

Luke's Gospel: Son of Man, Seeker of Men.



“Jesus is GREATER”

Luke 11:27-32 (NKJV); **Keeping the Word**

²⁷ And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, “Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!”

²⁸ But He said, “More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it!”

Seeking a Sign

²⁹ And while the crowds were thickly gathered together, He began to say, “This is an evil generation. It seeks a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet. ³⁰ For as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so also the Son of Man will be to this generation. ³¹ The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with the men of this generation and condemn them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here. ³² The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.

Jesus is GREATER...

1. Jesus is GREATER than my f_____ t_____ (v. 27-28).
 - What was the woman saying here? She was honoring Jesus' mother Mary.

- Honor was part of this culture. Parents was greatly honored by the community when their children turned out great and had a positive impact upon the community.

Proverbs 10:1; A wise son makes a glad father,
But a foolish son is the grief of his mother.

Proverbs 15:20; A wise son makes a father glad,
But a foolish man despises his mother.

Proverbs 29:15; The rod and rebuke give wisdom,
But a child left to *himself* brings shame to his mother.

Scripture Insight: "More than that. This has the sense of, "Yes, but rather...." While not denying the blessedness of Mary, Christ did not countenance any tendency to elevate Mary as an object of veneration. Mary's relationship to Him as His physical mother did not confer on her any greater honor than the blessedness of those who hear and obey the word of God."¹

- So, what is this about "hearing the word of God and keeping it"?

Scripture Insight: "**Blessed is the womb:** The woman offered praise for Jesus' mother. Though Jesus always honored Mary, He commented carefully on the woman's blessing to keep the focus on the **word of God**. It is easy to allow traditional practices to take the place of the authority of the Scriptures. Jesus offers His blessing to those who respond concretely to God's will as expressed in the Bible."²

I John 2:3-6; ³ Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. ⁴ He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. ⁵ But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. ⁶ He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

2. Jesus is GREATER than a f_____ p_____ (v. 29-30, 32).

- Look at Jesus next words-This is an evil generation. Jesus didn't fear people because He only wanted to please His heavenly Father.

Proverbs 29:25; The fear of man brings a snare,
But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.

¹ Quote from John MacArthur Study Bible.

² Quote from Thomas Nelson NKJV Study Bible.

The fear of man brings a S.N.A.R.E.

S-S _____ in my relationships.

N-N _____ attitude towards others.

A-A _____ about the unknown.

R-R _____ nights because I can't stop worrying.

E-E _____ towards those who have more peace than I do.

- The crowds were seeking after a sign (Luke 11:16), but Jesus said the only sign He would give was the sign of Jonah. What was the sign of Jonah?

Matthew 12:39-41; 39 But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. 40 For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. 41 The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.

- The result of Jonah's preaching-The entire city of Nineveh repented in sack cloths and ashes and God's judgment was taken away. The people of Nineveh repented as a whole, yet the people of Israel were refusing to repent, and Jesus is great than Jonah.

Acts 4:12- Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

3. **Jesus is GREATER than a f_____ k_____** (v. 31).

- Who is this Queen of the South? The Queen of the South is Queen Sheba. Queen Sheba is mentioned in I Kings 10.
- Jesus is greater than Solomon...so the Queen of Sheba herself will rebuke and condemn those who heard from Jesus Himself and didn't have a change of life.

Application Points:

- ✓ We are judged by what light we have. The greater the revelation, the greater the responsibility.
- ✓ Those who respond to the light that God gives will be given more light.
- ✓ Those who reject the light that God gives will be judged by that light.

Christ Connection: The people of Jesus' day and of our day need to be reminded that all of history is all about one Person—the Lord Jesus Christ. Don't get distracted by the sideshows and side debates. Keep your focus on the only One Who is truly worthy—Jesus Christ!

Sermon in a Sentence: My life will be greater when I focus on the One Who is greater, but my life will be less when I focus on Jesus less.

Great focus on Jesus=Greater Life

Or Less Focus on Jesus=Lesser Life



Action Steps:

1. **Surrender**—Surrender my life to Jesus completely and totally.
2. **Center**-Make Jesus the center of my life.
3. **Serve**-Since Jesus is the greatest, you should serve Jesus with great passion and purpose.

Make a decision this week? Please let us know on your Connection Card.

Preview for next Sunday: Good Eyes or Bad Eyes? Luke 11:33-36.

