

**“Are you the one who is to
come...?”**

Luke 7:18-35

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

Luke 7:18-20

18 John’s disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, **19** 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?’ ”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

“John was confused because the reports he received about Jesus were unexpected and incomplete. John’s doubts were natural, and Jesus didn’t rebuke him for them.”

NIV 1984 Life Application Study Bible

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

“John had announced the coming of the Messiah, but now he himself had been languishing in prison for months, and the work of Jesus had not brought the results John apparently expected.”

NIV 2011 Study Bible

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

Luke 7:21-23

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

22 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. **23** Blessed is anyone who does
not stumble on account of me.”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

“In answer, Jesus pointed to His healing and life-restoring miracles. He did not give promises but clearly observable evidence-evidence that reflected the predicted ministry of the Messiah. In Jesus’ review of His works He used an ascending scale of impressive deeds, ending with the dead raised and the good news preached to the poor.”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

Isaiah 35:5-6

5 Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. **6** Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

Luke 7:24-28

24 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.”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

Malachi 3:1

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty.

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

“Of all people, no one fulfilled his God-given purpose better than John. Yet in God’s kingdom, all who come after John have a greater spiritual heritage because they have clearer knowledge of the purpose of Jesus’ death and resurrection.”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

“John was the last to function like the OT prophets, the last to prepare the people for the coming Messianic age. Jesus was not contrasting the man John with individual Christians; he was contrasting life before Christ with life in the fullness of Christ’s kingdom.”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

Luke 7:29-30

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. **30** But the Pharisees and the experts in the law rejected God’s purpose for themselves, because they had not been baptized by John.)

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

“The common people, including tax collectors (who embodied evil in most people’s minds) heard John’s message and repented. In contrast, the Pharisees and experts in the law-religious leaders-rejected his words. Wanting to live their own way, they justified their own point of view and refused to listen to others. They “rejected God’s purpose.” They were so close to Jesus, and yet so far away.”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

Luke 7:31-32

31 Jesus went on to say, “To what, then, can I compare the people of this generation? What are they like? **32** They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling out to each other: “ ‘We played the pipe for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not cry.’”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

“People had rejected both John and Jesus, but for different reasons-like children who refuse to play either a joyful game or a mournful one. They would not associate with John when he followed the strictest of rules or with Jesus when He freely associated with all kinds of people.”

NIV 2011 Study Bible

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

Luke 7:33-35

33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ **34** The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ **35** But wisdom is proved right by all her children.”

“Are you the one who is to come...?”

“In contrast to the rejection by foolish critics, spiritually wise persons could see that the ministries of both John and Jesus were godly, despite their differences.”

Application

The question for us is:

WHO IS JESUS?

Final Thoughts

“Do we ask God to serve us? Or do we serve Him? The passage ultimately makes it clear that Jesus is the only way.”

Darrell Bock

Final Thoughts

2 Corinthians 3:15-18

15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts.

16 But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

18 And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.