

Spoiled Brats

Luke 7:18-35

What?

Childlike faith proves God is wise (so don't be childish like those Pharisee guys)

The ministry of Jesus was celebrational (21-23)—

People were being healed of blindness, lameness, deafness and sickness; the dead were being raised; the poor were hearing good news

The outward miracles were **pictures of the spiritual freedom** that Jesus brought as He preached the Good News

Luke 4:17-21, ESV—And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor”

Jesus’ arrival was **the spiritual fulfillment of the Old Testament 50th year Jubilee**

The ministry of John was about mourning, repentance (24-28)—

John’s personality and his lifestyle contributed to his thunderous message of judgment and the need to repent

In these two ministries we see two **different aspects of God’s work** among people to establish His kingdom

At times He may call men to **mourn over sin and repent**; at other times He may **call men to celebrate the wonders** of His works

The Big Question—“Who are the children in the parable, and what is Jesus saying about them?” (31-35)

The religious leaders childishly thought John and Jesus should minister according to what they wanted

When they didn’t, the religious leaders “refused to play” “John came along and you said he was too serious,” like children saying “Let’s play wedding”

“The Son of Man came and you said He parties,” like children changing their tune and saying “Let’s play funeral”

He was pointing out their **immature inconsistency**, not satisfied with anything, like cranky children

Jesus was saying that the coming of **the kingdom, involving both repentance and celebration, represented God’s wisdom**

It is **shown to be wise by the number of people** repenting and entering the kingdom, then celebrating grace

So what?

We need to put off the attitude that **God has to work “my way”**

Children of wisdom **both mourn sin and celebrate grace**

The last word—Paul

I Corinthians 1:30-31, ESV—It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. Therefore, as it is written: “Let him who boasts boast in the Lord”

God wants you to be **walking proof of His wisdom**

Now what?

Honestly ask God’s Holy Spirit, “Is there an area of my spiritual walk or service where I want my own way?”

Come to worship with a heart ready for celebration