

When Life Meets Death

Luke 7:11-17



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and His disciples were going along with Him,
accompanied by a large crowd.

Now as He approached the gate of the city,
a dead man was being carried out,
the only son of his mother, and she was a widow;
and a sizeable crowd from the city was with her.



Luke 7:13-15

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and said to her, “Do not weep.”

And He came up and touched the coffin;
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And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise!”

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And Jesus gave him back to his mother.



Luke 7:16-17

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saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!”
and, “God has visited His people!”
This report concerning Him went out all over Judea
and in all the surrounding district.





Main Point

When He who *is* life meets death,
His pity moves Him to reach out
with power to restore life and hope
to the needy.



Luke 7:16

“A great prophet has arisen among us!”

“God has visited His people!”



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When death meets death.



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When death meets death.

The death of a husband.



Luke 7:12

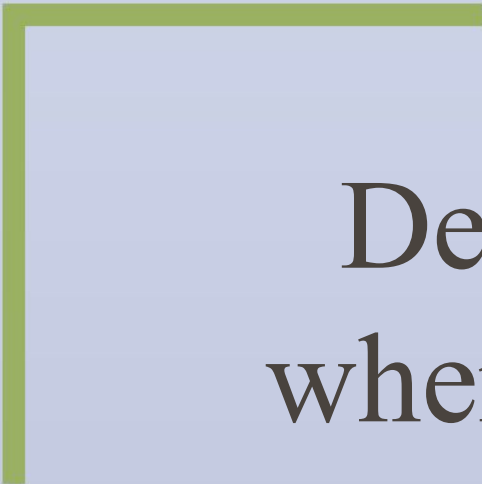
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Death had already met this woman
when it took her husband, leaving her
to care for their only child.

This situation is meant to remind
the reader of the care Elijah gave
to a widow in Zarephath.



Luke 4:25-26

But I say to you in truth, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the sky was shut up for three years and six months, when a great famine came over all the land; and yet Elijah was sent to none of them, but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow.



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and six months, when a great famine came over all the land;

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in the land of Sidon, **to a woman who was a widow.**



When death meets death.

The death of a husband.

The death of a son.



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This woman had experienced
the bitter grief of death upon death.

Zechariah 12:10

And they will mourn for Him,
as one mourns for an only son,
and they will weep bitterly over Him
like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.





The reader is meant to connect this story
to the prophet Elisha and the Shunammite
woman whose only son died.



2 Kings 4:14-17

So *Elisha* said, “What then is to be done for her?”
And Gehazi answered, “Truly she has no son and her husband
is old.” He said, “Call her...” Then he said,
“At this season next year you will embrace a son.”
The woman conceived and bore a son at that season the next year,
as Elisha had said to her.”



2 Kings 4:18-20

When the child was grown, the day came that he went out to his father to the reapers. He said to his father, “My head, my head.”

And he said to his servant, “Carry him to his mother.”

When he had taken him and brought him to his mother,
he sat on her lap until noon, and then died.



When death meets death.

The death of a husband.

The death of a son.

The death of a hope.



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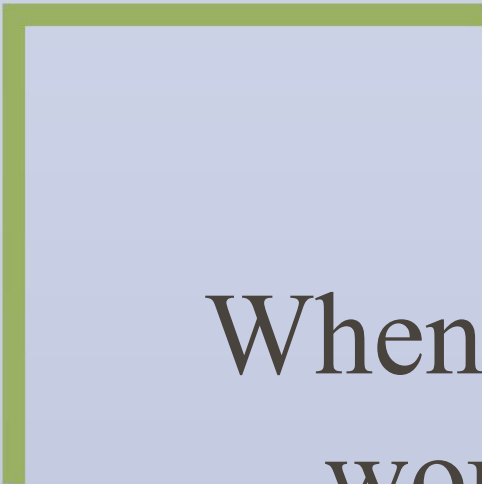
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When this woman lost her husband, her son
would have been her hope for support;
but death had taken this hope from her as well.

With death come a thousand deaths!



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When death meets life.



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When death meets life.

There is pity.



Luke 7:13-14

When the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her,
and said to her, “Do not weep.”



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compassion for her,**

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Luke 7:13-14

When the Lord saw her, He felt compassion for her,

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And He came up *and touched the coffin.*





Need draws forth compassion from Jesus
and moves Him to touch even the unclean
to make them whole.

Mark 1:40-41

And a leper came to Jesus, beseeching Him
and falling on his knees before Him, and saying,
“If You are willing, You can make me clean.”
Moved with compassion, Jesus stretched out His hand
and touched him.





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When death meets life.

There is compassion.

There is authority and power.



Luke 7:14-15

And He came up and touched the coffin;
and the bearers came to a halt.

And He said, “Young man, I say to you, arise!”
The dead man sat up and began to speak.



Authority

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Power

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When death met the One who *is* life,
He who *is* life displayed His authority
and power even over death.



When Life Meets Death

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When life meets death.

There is life.



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John 5:25-26

Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is,
when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,
and those who hear will live.

For just as the Father has life in Himself,
even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself.



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life *in Himself*.





The One who *is* life came to meet
death so that He might *give* life.



When life meets death.

There is life.

There is fear.



Luke 7:16

Fear gripped them all,
and they began glorifying God.



Luke 7:16

Fear *gripped* them all,
and they began glorifying God.



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Revelation 15:4

Who will not **fear**, O Lord,

and glorify Your name?



Exodus 20:20

Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid;
for God has come in order to test you,
and in order that the fear of Him may remain with you,
so that you may not sin.”



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so that you may not sin.”





The fear of those who do not know
Christ will be a terror to them,
but the fear of those who know Him
will be a thrill of delight to them.



Isaiah 33:14

Sinners in Zion are terrified;
Trembling has seized the godless.

But

Jeremiah 33:9

It will be to Me a name of joy, praise and glory before
all the nations of the earth which will hear of all the good
that I do for them, and they will fear and tremble
because of all the good and all the peace that I make for it.



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Psalm 2:11

Worship the LORD with fear
And *rejoice with trembling*.

Isaiah 60:5

Then you will see and be radiant,
And your heart *will thrill* and rejoice.

Isaiah 11:1-3

Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse...
And **He will delight in the fear of the LORD.**





*Nothing of God looks terrible in Christ to a
believer.*

*The sun has risen, shadows are vanished,
God walks upon the battlements of love,
justice has left its sting in a Savior's side,
the law is disarmed, weapons out of his hand,
his bosom open, his bowels yearned, his heart pants,
sweetness and love is in all his carriage.*

(Stephen Charnock)



1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love;
but perfect love casts out fear,
because fear involves punishment.



When life meets death.

There is life.

There is fear.

There is hope.



Hope for a widow

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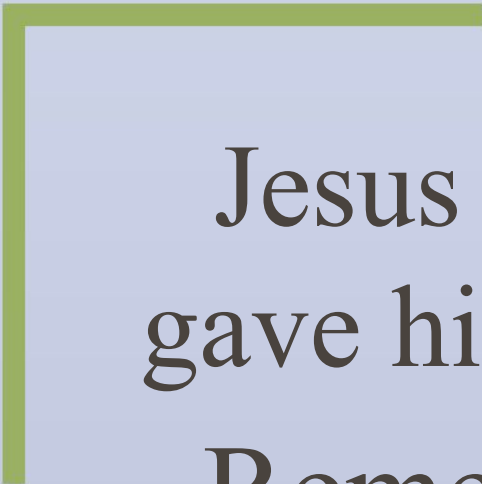
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Jesus had a claim on this man's life, but He gave him back to his mother for her provision.

Remember Elisha and the Shunammite?

2 Kings 4:36

He called Gehazi and said, "Call this Shunammite..."

And when she came in to him, he said,

"Take up your son."



Hope for a people

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For Reflection

Have you heard Jesus' voice, and have you received the life He offers you?

Do you know *about* the compassion of Christ, or do you *know* His compassion.

Are you afraid of God, or do you delight to fear Him?

