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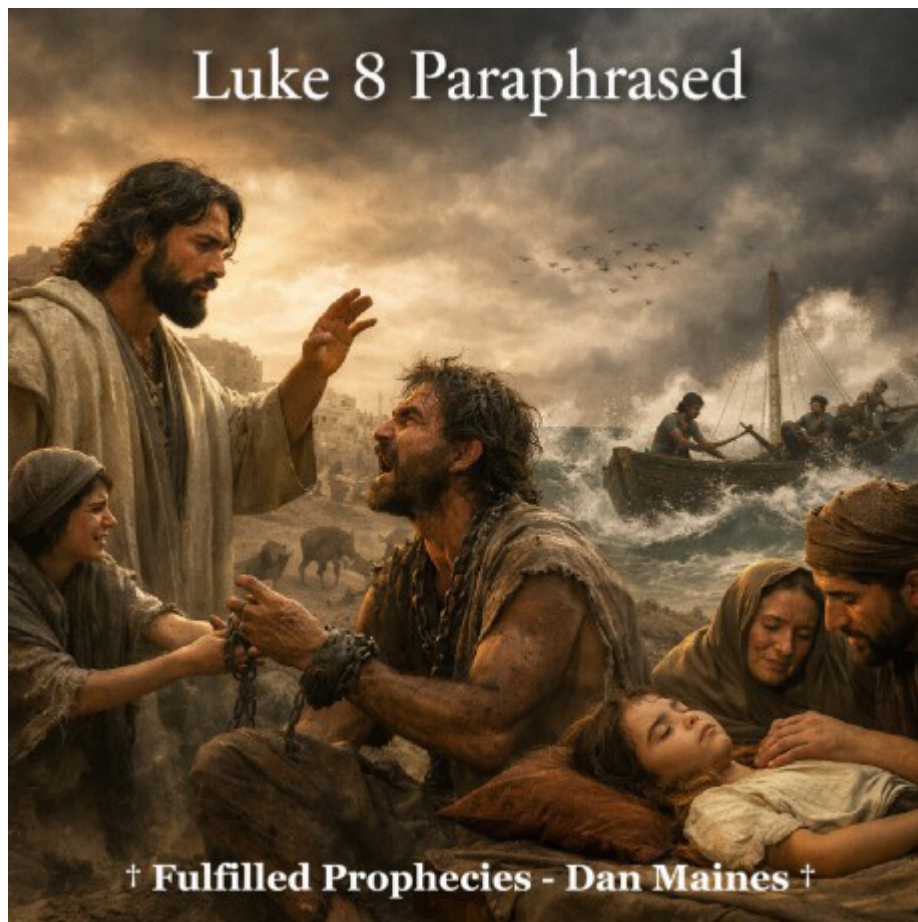
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Luke 8 Paraphrased



By Dan Maines

Luke 8 Paraphrased

Introduction

† Jesus is revealing the kingdom in their generation, not delaying it

† This chapter shows hearing, believing, and responding determines everything

† Authority over demons, nature, sickness, and death proves fulfillment was happening then

Luke 8:1

Soon after this, Jesus traveled from town to town and village to

village, announcing the good news of the kingdom of God, and the twelve were with Him

† The kingdom message was already going out across Israel

† This wasn't future, it was present in their time (Luke 17:20-21)

† Eusebius records the spread of this message before AD 70

Luke 8:2

Also with Him were some women who had been freed from evil spirits and sicknesses, Mary called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out

† Deliverance was happening in real time

† The kingdom was actively overthrowing darkness

† Josephus confirms demonic activity in that generation

Luke 8:3

And Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's manager, and Susanna, and many others who were supporting them out of their own means

† Even those connected to rulers were witnessing this

† The kingdom crossed social boundaries

† Clement of Alexandria notes women supporting early ministry

Luke 8:4

When a large crowd was gathering and people from city after city were coming to Him, He spoke using a parable

† Urgency shows something major was happening in that generation

† Parables revealed truth to some and hid it from others

† This fulfilled Isaiah 6:9-10 in their time

Luke 8:5

The farmer went out to sow his seed, and as he sowed, some fell beside the road, and it was trampled down, and the birds of the sky ate it up

† The seed is the word being preached then

† Many heard but didn't receive

† Truth was quickly taken from hardened hearts

Luke 8:6

Other seed fell on rocky ground, and as soon as it grew, it withered away because it had no moisture

† Temporary belief doesn't last

† Pressure exposed shallow faith

† Many fell away in that generation

Luke 8:7

Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it out

† Distractions destroyed fruitfulness

† This was already happening then

† Worldly concerns choked the message

Luke 8:8

Other seed fell into good soil and grew up and produced a crop a hundred times as great, as He said these things, He would call out, the one who has ears to hear, let him hear

† Response determines outcome

† Hearing was urgent in their time

† Fruit proves true reception

Luke 8:9

His disciples began asking Him what this parable meant

† Understanding wasn't automatic

† Even disciples needed explanation

† Truth must be received intentionally

Luke 8:10

He said, to you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand

† This fulfilled Isaiah during their generation

† Blindness was already present

† Judgment was unfolding

Luke 8:11

Now the parable is this, the seed is the word of God

† The message is clearly defined

† Everything depends on how it's received

† The word carries life

Luke 8:12

Those beside the road are the ones who have heard, then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they will not believe and be saved

† Spiritual opposition was active then

† Hearing alone isn't enough

† Truth must remain in the heart

Luke 8:13

Those on the rocky soil are the ones who when they hear receive the word with joy, but they have no firm root, they believe for a while, and in a time of temptation they fall away

† Emotional response isn't lasting faith

† Trials reveal true belief

† Many didn't endure

Luke 8:14

The seed which fell among the thorns, these are the ones who have heard, and as they go on their way they are choked by worries and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to maturity

† Divided focus kills growth

† The world competes with truth

† Fruit never develops

Luke 8:15

But the seed in the good soil, these are the ones who have

heard the word with a good and virtuous heart, and hold it firmly, and produce fruit with perseverance

† Faithfulness produces fruit

† Endurance proves genuine belief

† Fruit is visible evidence

Luke 8:16

Now no one lights a lamp and covers it with a container or puts it under a bed, but he puts it on a lampstand, so that those who come in may see the light

† Truth is meant to be revealed

† Light exposes reality

† The message spreads openly

Luke 8:17

For nothing is hidden that will not become evident, nor anything secret that will not be known and come to light

† Judgment was approaching

† Hidden things would be exposed

† Truth would be revealed openly

Luke 8:18

So take care how you listen, for whoever has, to him more will be given, and whoever does not have, even what he thinks he has will be taken away from him

† Hearing carries responsibility

† Growth follows response

† Neglect leads to loss

Luke 8:19

Now His mother and brothers came to Him, and they were unable to get to Him because of the crowd

† Physical closeness doesn't equal faith

† Access isn't understanding

† Crowds don't equal commitment

Luke 8:20

And it was reported to Him, your mother and your brothers are standing outside, wishing to see You

† Natural relationships are secondary

† The kingdom redefines identity

† Obedience matters most

Luke 8:21

But He answered and said to them, my mother and my brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it

† Obedience defines family

† Hearing must lead to action

† Spiritual identity replaces natural ties

Luke 8:22

Now on one of those days Jesus and His disciples got into a boat, and He said to them, let's go over to the other side of the lake, so they launched out

† The mission continued without delay

† Movement shows urgency

† They followed His direction

Luke 8:23

But as they were sailing along He fell asleep, and a fierce gale of wind descended on the lake, and they began to be swamped and to be in danger

† Real danger tested their faith

† Fear exposed weakness

† Circumstances challenged belief

Luke 8:24

They came up to Jesus and woke Him, saying, Master, Master, we are perishing, and He got up and rebuked the wind and the surging waves, and they stopped, and it became calm

† Authority over nature was undeniable

- † Creation obeyed Him
- † Power confirmed identity

Luke 8:25

And He said to them, where is your faith, they were fearful and amazed, saying to one another, who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him

- † Faith was expected already
- † They were still learning
- † His identity was becoming clear

Luke 8:26

Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee

- † The message reached new areas
- † Expansion beyond Israel's center
- † The kingdom wasn't confined

Luke 8:27

When He came out onto the land, He was met by a man from the city who was possessed by demons, and who had not put on any clothing for a long time, and was not living in a house but among the tombs

- † Extreme oppression existed then
- † Darkness was real and visible
- † This shows the condition of that world

Luke 8:28

Seeing Jesus, he cried out and fell before Him, and said with a loud voice, what business do we have with each other, Jesus, Son of the Most High God, I beg You, do not torment me

- † Demons recognized Him instantly
- † Authority was undeniable
- † Judgment was expected

Luke 8:29

For He had been commanding the unclean spirit to come out of the man

† Jesus initiated deliverance

† He didn't wait to be asked

† Authority was active

Luke 8:30

Jesus asked him, what is your name, and he said, Legion, because many demons had entered him

† The depth of bondage was extreme

† Many spirits controlled him

† Shows the scale of oppression

Luke 8:31

They were begging Him not to command them to go away into the abyss

† They knew judgment was near

† They feared removal

† Authority was absolute

Luke 8:32

Now there was a herd of many pigs feeding there on the mountain, and the demons begged Him to permit them to enter the pigs, and He gave them permission

† Even demons needed permission

† Jesus controlled the situation

† Nothing operated outside His authority

Luke 8:33

The demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned

† Visible proof of deliverance

† The man was freed instantly

† Power was undeniable

Luke 8:34

When those who tended them saw what had happened, they ran away and reported it in the city and out in the country

- † The news spread immediately
- † Witnesses confirmed the event
- † The impact was public

Luke 8:35

The people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone out sitting down at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they became frightened

- † Transformation was undeniable
- † Fear replaced curiosity
- † Truth unsettled them

Luke 8:36

Those who had seen it reported to them how the man who had been demon possessed had been made well

- † Eyewitness testimony confirmed it
- † The event wasn't hidden
- † Truth was public

Luke 8:37

And all the people of the country of the Gerasenes and the surrounding area asked Him to leave them, because they were gripped with great fear, and He got into a boat and returned

- † Many rejected truth even after seeing it
- † Fear led to rejection
- † Not all respond with faith

Luke 8:38

But the man from whom the demons had gone out was begging Him that he might accompany Him, but He sent him away, saying

† Not everyone followed physically

† He was given a different role

† Purpose was assigned

Luke 8:39

Return to your house and describe what great things God has done for you, so he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him

† Testimony spreads the message

† Personal experience carries weight

† The message continued outward

Luke 8:40

As Jesus returned, the people welcomed Him, for they had all been waiting for Him

† Different regions responded differently

† Some received Him gladly

† Expectation was building

Luke 8:41

And a man named Jairus came, and he was an official of the synagogue, and he fell at Jesus' feet and began urging Him to come to his house

† Even leaders sought Him

† Authority drew people

† Desperation brought humility

Luke 8:42

For he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, and she was dying, but as He went, the crowds were pressing against Him

† Urgency increased

† The crowd pressed in constantly

† Need drove people to Him

Luke 8:43

And a woman who had a hemorrhage for twelve years, and could not be healed by anyone

† Long suffering without solution

† Human efforts failed

† She had no other hope

Luke 8:44

Came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His cloak, and immediately her hemorrhage stopped

† Faith produced immediate results

† Contact wasn't magical, belief was key

† Healing was instant

Luke 8:45

And Jesus said, who is the one who touched Me, and while they were all denying it, Peter said, Master, the people are crowding and pressing in on You

† The crowd didn't understand what happened

† Not every touch is faith

† Jesus knew the difference

Luke 8:46

But Jesus said, someone did touch Me, for I was aware that power had gone out of Me

† Healing was intentional

† Power flowed in response to faith

† This wasn't random

Luke 8:47

When the woman saw that she had not escaped notice, she came trembling and fell down before Him, and declared in the presence of all the people the reason why she had touched Him, and how she had been immediately healed

† Her testimony confirmed the miracle

† Fear turned into confession

† Truth was made public

Luke 8:48

And He said to her, Daughter, your faith has made you well, go in peace

† Faith was the cause

† Not ritual or law

† Peace followed healing

Luke 8:49

While He was still speaking, someone came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, your daughter has died, do not trouble the Teacher anymore

† Hope seemed gone

† Finality appeared certain

† Death looked permanent

Luke 8:50

But when Jesus heard this, He answered him, do not be afraid any longer, only believe, and she will be made well

† Faith overrides fear

† Belief was still required

† The outcome hadn't changed

Luke 8:51

When He came to the house, He did not allow anyone to enter with Him, except Peter and John and James, and the girl's father and mother

† Access was limited

† The moment was controlled

† Witnesses were chosen

Luke 8:52

Now they were all crying and mourning for her, but He said, stop crying, for she has not died, but is asleep

† Death wasn't final to Him

† He redefined the situation

† Authority over death was about to be shown

Luke 8:53

And they began laughing at Him, knowing that she had died

† Unbelief mocks truth

† They trusted what they saw

† They didn't understand His power

Luke 8:54

However, He took her by the hand and called, saying, child, get up

† His word carried authority

† Command brought life

† Power was immediate

Luke 8:55

And her spirit returned, and she got up immediately, and He gave orders for something to be given her to eat

† Life was restored instantly

† Proof followed the miracle

† This wasn't symbolic, it was real

Luke 8:56

Her parents were amazed, but He instructed them to tell no one what had happened

† Not everything was to be spread immediately

† Timing mattered

† Revelation was controlled

Historical References

† Josephus records demonic activity and healings during the first century

† Eusebius documents the spread of the gospel before AD 70

† Irenaeus confirms the works of Christ as fulfillment signs

† Clement of Alexandria speaks of early believers and their

testimony

How It Applies To Us Today

† Hearing isn't enough, we must respond

† Faith must endure, not fade

† Truth still divides those who accept and reject

† The kingdom is present, not future

† Christ's authority is unchanged

Q & A Appendix

Q: What does the seed represent

A: The word of God (Luke 8:11)

Q: Why did many fall away

A: They had no root and failed under pressure (Luke 8:13)

Q: What chokes the word

A: Worries, riches, and pleasures (Luke 8:14)

Q: What proves true belief

A: Producing fruit with perseverance (Luke 8:15)

Q: What made the woman well

A: Her faith (Luke 8:48)

† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †

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Source Index

† Luke 8

† Josephus

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies

† Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History

† Clement of Alexandria, Stromata

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