The Widow of Nain

(Luke 7:11-17)

Introduction: 1. "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three: by the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13).

- a. Many people misunderstand this statement, suggesting that faith and hope will be done away with in heaven.
- b. However, that is the opposite of what Paul is stating.
- c. He is contrasting the temporary gifts with these eternal graces.
- 2. But if there were a chapter that exemplifies faith, hope, and love, it would have to be Luke 7.
 - a. The faith of the Centurian (Luke 7:1-10).
 - b. The hope of the Widow (Luke 7:11-17).
 - c. The love of the sinful woman (Luke 7:36-50).
- 3. In this lesson, let's examine the hope of this widow.

I. The Compassion of Jesus

- A. (Luke 7:11-13).
- B. Though the word compassion is used to describe the feelings of Jesus only three times in the book of Luke, it is witnessed on almost every page.
- C. "Does Jesus care when I've said, "goodbye" to the dearest on earth to me, And my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks, is it aught to Him, does He see?
- D. (1 Peter 5:7).

II. The Power of Jesus

- A. (Luke 7:14-15).
- B. This widow's son is the first person Jesus raised from the dead.
- C. The people had seen power, but nothing quite like this!
- D. Imagine the indebtedness of this widow.

III. The Response to Jesus

- A. (Luke 7:16).
- B. They glorified God and realized that God had visited them.
 - 1. This was the purpose of miracles (John 20:30-31).
 - 2. Immanuel God with us (Matthew 1:32).

IV. The News about Jesus

- A. (Luke 7:17).
- B. They did not remain silent about what they learned.
- C. (2 Corinthians 4:13).

Conclusion: 1. May we be amazed by the revelation about Jesus God saw fit to preserve.

2. And may that revelation cause us to have faith, hope, and love.