

FAITH THAT BROUGHT RESULTS

BIBLE TEXT : Mark 5:21-43

LESSON 80 Senior Course

MEMORY VERSE: "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

BIBLE TEXT in King James Version

Mark 5:21-43 (KJV)

²¹ And when Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side, much people gathered unto him: and he was nigh unto the sea.

²² And, behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet,

²³ And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: *I pray thee*, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.

²⁴ And *Jesus* went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged him.

²⁵ And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years,

²⁶ And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse,

²⁷ When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.

²⁸ For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.

²⁹ And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in *her* body that she was healed of that plague.

³⁰ And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?

³¹ And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

BIBLE REFERENCES:

I The Return of Jesus

1 The people have a desire to meet Him, Mark 5:21;

Luke 8:40 (KJV)

⁴⁰ And it came to pass, that, when Jesus was returned, the people *gladly* received him: for they were all waiting for him.

Jeremiah 29:13 (KJV)

¹³ And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

2 Jairus humbles himself before Christ, Mark 5:22;

Luke 8:41 (KJV)

⁴¹ And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house:

Matthew 9:18 (KJV)

¹⁸ While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.

Psalms 33:8 (KJV)

⁸ Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him.

3 Great confidence in Jesus is manifested, Mark 5:23; Matthew 8:2, 8-10

Matthew 8:2 (KJV)

² And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

Matthew 8:8-10 (KJV)

⁸ The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

⁹ For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth *it*.

¹⁰ When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

4 Jesus responds to the earnest plea, Mark 5:24;

Matthew 9:19 (KJV)

¹⁹ And Jesus arose, and followed him, and *so did* his disciples.

Matthew 8:5-7 (KJV)

⁵ And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

⁶ And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

⁷ And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

II Human Failure — Supernatural Success

1 The woman has suffered at great length, Mark 5:25;

Matthew 9:20 (KJV)

²⁰ And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind *him*, and touched the hem of his garment:

Luke 8:43 (KJV)

⁴³ And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any,

2 Many physicians have proved unable to effect the cure, Mark 5:26

3 The trusting soul finds deliverance, Mark 5:27-29;

Matthew 9:21-22 (KJV)

²¹ For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.

²² But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he

³² And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing.

³³ But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth.

³⁴ And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

³⁵ While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's *house certain* which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further?

³⁶ As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe.

³⁷ And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James.

³⁸ And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly.

³⁹ And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth.

⁴⁰ And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying.

⁴¹ And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise.

⁴² And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was *of the age* of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.

⁴³ And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat.

said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

Luke 8:44 (KJV)

⁴⁴ Came behind *him*, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stancheth.

4 Jesus perceives that the woman has come in faith, Mark 5:30-32;

Matthew 9:22 (KJV)

²² But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

Luke 8:45-46 (KJV)

⁴⁵ And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

⁴⁶ And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.

5 She reaps a reward for her faith, Mark 5:33, 34; Hebrews 11

Luke 8:47-48 (KJV)

⁴⁷ And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately.

⁴⁸ And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

III Life Through Faith

1 Great discouragement is encountered, Mark 5:35;

Luke 8:49 (KJV)

⁴⁹ While he yet spake, there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's *house*, saying to him, Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master.

2 Jesus encourages the grieving parent, Mark 5:36;

Luke 8:50 (KJV)

⁵⁰ But when Jesus heard *it*, he answered him, saying, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.

Mark 9:23 (KJV)

²³ Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

3 Despite the scorn of the people Jesus performs another mighty miracle, Mark 5:37-43;

Matthew 9:23-25 (KJV)

²³ And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise,

²⁴ He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn.

²⁵ But when the people were put forth, he went in, and took her by the hand, and the maid arose.

Luke 8:51-55 (KJV)

⁵¹ And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden.

⁵² And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.

⁵³ And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead.

⁵⁴ And he put them all out, and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise.

⁵⁵ And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.

NOTES:

The Reception of Christ at the West Side of the Sea

How different was the welcome Jesus received on the other side" from the farewell He was given at Gadara! He had healed the most feared Gadarene, a man who had terrorized the people for a long time, but had been rejected and asked to depart.

But when Jesus arrived at "the other side" many people met Him. He was, as always, available to those who came earnestly seeking Him His heart went out to those who were suffering, especially to those who looked to Him for help. Everyone who

came to Him felt the healing touch of His divine hand. Those who came confessing their sins felt the pardoning grace that only He could give.

Among those who met Him soon after His arrival was Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue, who asked Jesus to come and heal his daughter. Jairus recognized the authority of the Son of God and rendered proper respect in presenting his petition. His position as a ruler of the synagogue made him a man of considerable importance socially, but he adopted an attitude of humility that admitted his knowledge of the pre-eminence of Christ over all earthly things. He fell at Jesus' feet to voice his earnest plea, assuming an attitude of worship in doing so. Jesus did not censure Jairus for this worship, but accepted it, for it was necessary that he realize that Jesus was the Son of God, the Christ that was to come. Unbelievers, or those who deny Christ's power, do not receive blessings from God!

Jairus and His Faith in Christ

Jairus came in faith, and because of that faith his daughter was healed. He was compelled to demonstrate his faith when he made his initial request of Jesus, but later when the news came that the daughter had already died he had to "stand still" in that faith. The first act of faith was an outward act, a plea for the compassion and healing power of the Anointed One. The second was entirely inward, for before he had time to say a word the reassurance came, "Be not afraid, only believe." How the wellsprings of living faith in his soul must have surged at that encouraging command! Even if the outlook was dark, even if from an earthly point of view all hope was gone, even if the breath of life itself was taken away, the command was the same, "Be not afraid, only believe."

Faith had its rewards. The girl responded to the word of the Master of life and death, life came back to the cold body, and she walked. She was normal, a child who would again brighten the home, with the flower of youth upon her and the hopes of life before her. What a reward for a simple act of faith in the One who has never given man a reason to doubt His love, compassion, and power!

The Woman Who Touched Christ's Garment

However, everyone there that day did not have the same opportunity to fall at Jesus' feet with an individual plea for help, or to speak to Him face to face as Jairus had. The Scripture tells us that much people followed Jesus as He left the shore and went to Jairus' house, and there was in that crowd a woman who also needed help that He alone could give. But she was not discouraged because the same privilege was not hers that the ruler of the synagogue had enjoyed.

This woman, too, had faith. And if we were in a position to judge the amount or quality of an individual's faith we might be tempted to say that she had more and better faith than any others there that day. She was forced, because of her circumstances, the pressure of the crowd around her, and the apparent preoccupation of the Son of God, to take hold of whatever opportunity came to her. This she did.

She had suffered for many years at the hands of the physicians. They had taken all her money; she was now poverty-stricken and physically worse. She perhaps had gone to every place and person she could go to, to secure healing, but now she had only the memories of their uncertain experimentation and painful treatments — and her disease! The things that had happened would seemingly tend to shatter her faith in everything and everybody. She might easily have lost hope and

given herself up to sheer despair. But she, like Jairus, held to her faith in God when she came into possession of that vital, life-giving treasure.

She was humble in heart and mind, and felt unworthy of even troubling the Master. She was just a poor woman, with no social recommendations or prestige. She had nothing to bring but her disease and sins. But she found that day that Jesus was not interested in worldly prestige or glory, but that He was eager to help all who came to Him, for He helped her. Her attitude was one of true worship and faith, for she knew that if she could just touch the hem of His garment, enough virtue could come out of that divine Form to heal her. She did not feel it was necessary that He should be bothered; it was not necessary for Him to lay His hand on her head. "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole" was apparently the impelling motive that gave her courage to edge her way through the crowds to the inner circle where the Master walked.

It is in the "inner circle" that God's blessings are received. It is not at the outskirts of the throng that the nearness of His presence is felt. No one who holds on to the world with one hand can enjoy the virtue that emanates from the One who created the world by the word of His mouth. If a person is to receive blessings from God that person must press in to a close relationship with Jesus, in faith and assurance of heart and mind.

Hers was the touch of faith, for she said, "If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole" (Mark 5:28). It was not the touch of the idly curious. She was not like those who jostled Him as He walked. Hers was just a simple touch. One can almost see her as she walked, bowed over with her infirmity, pushing herself among people who rudely crowded each other vying for a curious glimpse of the One who reputedly was able to do great miracles. There was a purpose other than that in her act as she edged closer with each step. She perhaps at first extended her hand; then a finger or two touched His clothes; and then she probably grasped the edge of His garment with reverence and mute petition for help — and then relaxed and let go.

Her form straightened! New life came into her body! The old trouble vanished. She felt the surge of health in her body once more. She did not need more than that touch of faith to complete the work. It was done. She walked as she probably had not walked in many years past.

But a new cloud came upon her horizon, for the Lord spoke quickly, "Who touched my clothes?" The question was obviously a hard one. The disciples were almost impatient, because many people were walking with Jesus on the narrow roadway and it was impossible that somebody would not touch Him. But Jesus looked at the woman and she knew instantly that His all-seeing eye and all-knowing heart perceived her act. She fell down before Him, fearing and trembling, for she knew now all the more surely that He was more than an ordinary man. She told Him all!

The answer Jesus gave was reassuring and comforting to her and instructive to us. But there was more than physical healing included in what He gave her there. "Go in peace" could mean nothing but that the Author of peace Himself had pardoned her sins and that she was now able to go forth to walk in newness of life, healed and transformed by the word of the Christ of Galilee. All this was brought by her faith in that Christ and in His power.

Faith, the Necessary Virtue

In Hebrews 11:1 we read that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." It is more than feeling, more than seeing, more than any response of our

physical senses. It is an absolute, sure, and positive substance that brings the reality our natures seem to require. Faith is also the thing that connects us with eternal realities! It is necessary, for we are told that without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). The person who comes to God must, like Jairus and the afflicted woman; believe that God is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him Faith pleases God!

Faith comes to our hearts by believing and obeying the Word of God. The eleventh chapter of Hebrews gives us a list of God's heroes who were able to accomplish great things for God because they had faith. It was strength and support to them in the time of their great need, sore trial, bereavement, or persecution. It was the guiding star, that brought them to their spiritual land of promise and caused them to see the heavenly City above and beyond all the things of this earth. Faith is the scarcest thing in the world but it is free to everyone who will receive it. And those who do receive it will be able to walk with God, to enjoy His blessings, and to look for His appearing like those heroes of God now gone to their reward.

QUESTIONS

- 1 Upon Jesus' return from healing the demoniac what was the attitude of the people toward Him?
- 2 What was the social standing of Jairus in his community?
3. What was his attitude before Jesus? Was this necessary?
- 4 What was the response of Jesus upon hearing the plea of Jairus?
- 5 Who put forth a special effort to touch Jesus as He journeyed?
- 6 Did the woman receive that for which she had sought? Through what channel was this possible?
- 7 What advice did Jesus give the ruler of the synagogue upon receipt *of the news* of the child's death?
- 8 What was the attitude of the people at the ruler's house toward Jesus, and what was the reason for this attitude?
- 9 How was the faith of the girl's father justified?
- 10 Need we fear to trust the Lord today? Can He not do the same things for us?