

The Touch of Jesus

“Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them.” (Luke 4:40)

Lessons from miracles Jesus did, as they are recorded in the Book of Luke.

LESSON 8: Two Miracles In One Day!

“And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.” (Luke 8:46)

As you listen to the teacher, fill in the blanks!

1. The man possessed by devils was uncontrollable and _____.
2. The devils were afraid of being sent into “*the deep*,” which in Revelation is called the _____.
3. Jesus told the delivered man to go home and tell how _____ God had done for him.

As we have already seen, the eighth chapter of Luke is a chapter of miracles! We learn in the first three verses about the women that were healed and served Jesus. Beginning in verse 22, we read about the stilling of the storm. Then comes the casting out of a legion of devils. From verse 40 to the end we learn about two major miracles of Jesus that occurred one right after the other on the same day. In one of them, a woman was healed of a disease that had plagued her for a long time and had ruined her financially. In the other case, a dead girl was raised. Those two miracles apparently took place in Capernaum, the headquarters town of the Lord Jesus Christ, and they have a relation to each other.

“Twelve Years”

Notice that our story begins with Jairus, the “*ruler of the synagogue*,” begging the Lord Jesus to heal his dying daughter (vs. 40-42). She was “*about twelve years of age*.” As Jesus moved through the crowd that thronged Him, “*a woman having an issue of blood*” came up behind Him, and “*touched the border of his garment*” (vs. 43-44). She had suffered from her disease “*twelve years*.” Think about the link between these two miracles. For twelve years a girl was loved, was trained, grew taller, played, matured, and delighted her parents. Now she was dying. For twelve years a woman had suffered, had sought a cure, had spent “*all her living upon physicians*,” and had almost given up hope. Then she found Jesus. In one situation, the Lord extended a life that ended after twelve years. In the other case, He ended twelve years of suffering and loss. Jesus does both

kinds of miracles. He revives the good that has ended, and He ends the bad that seemingly would never end. Come to Jesus with your problem, dear friend. He is a kind and compassionate healer. Hear His words to the woman in verse 48: *"Be of good comfort."* Hear His words to the grieving parents in verse 52: *"Weep not."* He can turn your darkness into day! Come to Jesus today.

"Thy Faith"

Again we see that faith played an important part in the performing of miracles. See what Jesus said in verses 48 and 50. Notice that in both the case of the woman and the case of the girl, faith had to be exercised in spite of discouragement. The woman with the issue of blood was desperate. It seemed that her only hope was that touching Jesus might do some good (Read again vs. 43-48). The throng was in the way, but she pressed her way to the Lord. And the Lord Jesus rewarded her desperate, persistent faith. She was afraid, but she believed as best she could, and her trembling faith brought a miracle! When Jesus said of the dead girl, *"She shall be made whole"* (vs. 49-56), and when He asserted that she only slept, the people around Him *"laughed him to scorn."* Yet He told her parents, *"Believe only,"* and their faith, encouraged by nobody but Jesus, was rewarded with a miracle. How the Lord loves faith! Look up Romans 14:22-23 and Hebrews 11:6. Remember always to have faith in *God's Word*, in *God's love*, and in *God's power*.

"Sleepeth"

When Jesus went into the house where the dead girl's body lay, He took *"Peter, and James, and John."* This inner circle of the twelve apostles was allowed to experience several important events from which the others were excluded (See Luke 9:28-29, too. Also look up Matthew 26:36-38 and Mark 13:3-4). When He stood before her bed, Jesus said, *"She is not dead, but sleepeth"* (vs. 52-53). Often the Bible says that believers who die are just sleeping. Look up these passages: Matthew 27:52-53, John 11:11-14, Acts 7:59-60, I Thessalonians 4:13-18.

The idea is that death for the Christian is *temporary*. He is going to wake up some day in a resurrection! (See I Corinthians 15:51-57.) Notice in Luke 8:55 that when the young girl's *"spirit came again...she arose straightway."* While she was *"dead,"* her spirit was separated from her body. That is the Biblical definition of physical death: *"the body without the spirit is dead"* (James 2:26). The spirit goes to Heaven to be with the Lord, if the dead person is a Christian (Study II Corinthians 5:1-9 and Philippians 1:20-26). When the Lord Jesus comes again, He will bring back with Him the spirits of Christians in Heaven to be reunited with their bodies which will be transformed and glorified in the resurrection. Death is temporary for the believer in Christ. When he dies, his spirit goes to Heaven and his body falls asleep to await resurrection!