

Series: Hope For the Hard Cases

THE CASE OF THE RUINED WOMAN

MARK 5:22-34

Text:

Introduction:

The Bible is filled with impossible, hopeless cases. Situations and circumstances appear in the Word of God, many of them appear impossible. There seems to be no solution. Storms, deaths, sicknesses, and many other situations, that to the human mind are impossible, yet they are handled with ease with ease by the Lord.

In this section of scripture we find several of these hard cases. There is a storm, a man filled with demons, and then a dead little girl. The Lord steps into every single one of these unimaginable situations and proves that He is more than capable of handling whatever happens.

One truth that we will see in the hard cases over the next several weeks is that God is capable of handling hard cases.

There are no impossible situations with Him.

There are no hopeless predicaments with Him.

Nothing is hopeless with the Lord.

Notice:

1. HER SUFFERING (VS. 24-26)

Mark 5:24-26

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,

Note:

A. Her Affliction (vs. 25)

We are told that she suffered from “an issue of blood”. This literally means that she was hemorrhaging.

The word “issue” means “a flowing of blood”.

Whatever caused this internal hemorrhage, she was a very sick woman.

Note not only her “Affliction” but also:

B. Her Anguish (vs. 26)

Mark 5:26

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

A constant flow of blood would have caused her unbelievable suffering.

Note:

- Her Physical Anguish

Because of her issue she would have been weak and anemic.

She would have been pale.

She would have had no energy at all

- Her Medical Anguish

We are also told that she had tried all the remedies of all the physicians of her day. We are told that she “suffered” under their care.

- Her Social Anguish

Her condition left her on the fringes of society. In the eyes of those around her, she was no better than a leper.

- Her Religious Anguish

Under the Law, Lev. 15:19; 25-27, this poor woman was to be considered unclean. Anything or anyone that she touched was also considered unclean. As a result, she could not mingle with other people.

Leviticus 15:19

¹⁹ And if a woman have an issue, and her issue in her flesh be blood, she shall be put apart seven days: and whosoever toucheth her shall be unclean until the even.

Leviticus 15:25-27

²⁵ And if a woman have an issue of her blood many days out of the time of her separation, or if it run beyond the time of her separation; all the days of the issue of her uncleanness shall be as the days of her separation: she shall be unclean. ²⁶ Every bed whereon she lieth all the days of her issue shall be unto her as the bed of her separation: and whatsoever she sitteth upon shall be unclean, as the uncleanness of her separation. ²⁷ And whosoever toucheth those things shall be unclean, and shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.

- Her Financial Anguish

The Bible tells us that she “spent all she had”.

All they had done was drain her bank account dry.

She has been left broke and destitute.

Note not only her “Affliction” and “Anguish” but also:

C. Her Agony (vs. 26)

Mark 5:26

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

After years of pain, worthless doctors, useless remedies, and shattered dreams, she has reached the place where she knows she is living under a death sentence. She will not get better. She knows that she will die from this disease. Her life is literally draining out of her body little by little, day by day.

I wonder how many people can identify with this poor woman. Maybe you don't have the same kind of illness, but like her, you are filled with suffering and sorrow. This nameless, suffering woman pictures two types of people:

- She can picture every individual who doesn't know Christ as their Saviour – lost and defiled.
- She can also picture a believer who is laboring and carrying a heavy burden.

Many Christians are discouraged and defeated today.

They have tried many things to get better, read books, got advice but are not any better.

Not only do we see her “Suffering” but also notice:

2. HER SCHEME (VS. 27-28)

Mark 5:27-28

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.

This hopeless, broken woman devised a plan to meet the Lord.

Note:

A. Her Reasons (vs. 27)

Somewhere, this poor woman heard about Jesus.

Maybe she had heard how He had healed a leper, Mark 1:40-42.

Maybe she had heard about that wild man just across the lake that Jesus had delivered from a legion of demons, Mark 5:1-20.

Or, maybe some other poor soul, who lived on the fringes of society, had been healed by Jesus and came by and told her about Him.

Somewhere this woman heard that there was power in His touch.

Note not only her “Reasons” but also:

B. Her Resolve (vs. 28)

She heard about the Lord, and she knew she had to get to Him.

She came to realize that the Lord was her only hope!

She believed with all her heart that if she could just get to Him, she would be healed.

She displayed her determination to get to Jesus by approaching Him in that crowd.

She was taking a great risk, for if she had been recognized, she would have been subjected to public humiliation and ridicule.

A crowd like that might have gotten worked up and beat her or stoned her to death.

For her, it was a risk worth taking.

She believed Jesus would heal her!

I say today - Get to the Lord and He will Help you.

Not only do we see her “Suffering” and he “Scheme” but also notice:

3. HER SALVATION (VS. 29-34)

Mark 5:29-34

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?* 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.*

A. It Was Powerful (vs. 29)

B. It Was Personal (vs. 30-33)

C. It was Profound (vs. 34)

Mark 5:34

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

The word “whole” is the same word translated “saved” throughout the New Testament.

It means “to be rescued from all harm and danger. To be kept safe and sound”. She got a whole lot more than she bargained for that day!

It was also:

D. Permanent (vs. 34) – “go in peace”

His words let her know that she has done the right thing in coming to Him and touching Him. Any other man in that crowd would have been offended and angered had this diseased woman intentionally touched him, but not Jesus!

She was well and she knew it, but these final words of Jesus, “thy faith hath made thee whole”, drive home the fact that she was finally and fully free from her plague. She was healed and life would never be the same again!

Close:

This woman experienced healing, not because she touched His garment, but because she exercised faith in Jesus and His power. When her faith touched His power, His power changed her life.

Whether you are lost in sin, or whether you are battling difficulty, Jesus is your answer?

If you have reached the place where all other remedies have failed, all other means have exhausted themselves and you need help right now, the Lord can meet your needs.