

FROM BEWAILING TO BEWILDERMENT LUKE 8

Text: Luke 8:52, 56

Luke 8:52

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

Luke 8:56

⁵⁶ And her parents were astonished: but he charged them that they should tell no man what was done.

Introduction:

Jairus the ruler of the synagogue had a terrible problem. His daughter lay dangerously ill and the Lord alone was her only hope of recovery.

If he sought aid from the Healer, his job would be in jeopardy, and critics would be merciless in their denunciation.

If he refrained from antagonizing the Pharisees, he would attend the funeral of his child.

We certainly never know how fierce the battle was within his soul before he made his decision to seek out the Lord.

Notice:

1. THE DIFFICULT DECISION – FAITH TAUNTED

The writers of the Gospels said Jairus was one of the rulers of the synagogue.

The rich young ruler chose between wealth and discipleship and refused to abandon his money. The ruler of the synagogue was forced to choose between his child and local popularity.

The world now knows the daughter was raised because her father knelt! "He fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house."

Luke 8:41

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:

2. A DISTURBING DELAY – FAITH TESTED

Language could never express the ruler's happiness when Jesus granted his request. He wanted to run all

the way home. When the party came to a halt, the man wondered why Jesus had paused on the roadway.

But note:

Luke 8:43-46

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

This woman had been sick the entire time this man's little girl had been alive.

Possibly the Lord only paused for a few minutes, but to the worried parent the delay seemed endless.

Why could not that woman have chosen another time to seek assistance?

His daughter was dying; the need was critical and urgent.

What if she expired before the Healer arrived? During those terrible moments the faith of that father was severely tested.

Then the dreaded event happened. "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" (Luke 8:49).

Luke 8:49

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.

During such moments doubt sometimes overwhelms the soul.

When clouds fill the sky, it is easy to forget the sun continues to shine.

The man was exceedingly anxious, "But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying:

Luke 8:50

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

Had he hastened to the home of Jairus, an impoverished woman would have been denied the pleasure of meeting her greatest Benefactor. Even the delays of the Lord are proof of His care.

Circumstances may suggest God is sometimes forgetful, but in moments of distress He is never far away.

3. THE DEADLY DISTRACTION – FAITH THREATENED

They had reached the street in which Jairus resided, and the unusual noise indicated tragedy had devastated his home.

The mourners were mourning, their wails of grief echoed through the street.

Throughout those tragic moments the troubled Jairus listened and watched.

Maybe earlier fears returned to ask, "What will happen if Jesus cannot do what I require?"

What will my colleagues say and think if after all this my daughter is buried?" The Lord was aware of those fears.

Christ knows when faith is being tested; when danger surrounds us, "underneath are the everlasting arms." Probably the Lord expelled the scorners, because He desired to safeguard the future of the ruler. Later "he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat" (Mark 5:43).

Mark 5:43

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

4. THE DELIGHTFUL DELIVERANCE – FAITH TRIUMPHANT

Mark 5:41-43

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.

Perhaps the father was unable to speak. His eyes were filled with tears. His arms were now around his restored child.

Amazement was spreading among all who had witnessed the miracle. They were excited, and even the people in the street were astonished.

The parents were overjoyed. The others were excited, but, with care so characteristic of the Friend of children the Lord knew that she was hungry, He instructs them to give her something to eat.

Close:

- This little girl had a dad who wasn't ashamed to seek the Lord.

He didn't send his wife, or one of his other children. He didn't send a servant, He went himself.

Oh that our dads would seek Jesus without shame.

- He was not ashamed to bring the Lord to his house.

Oh, that God would give us Dads who would bring Jesus to the house.

Men who would stand with Joshua and declare to the world; "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

- He was not ashamed to put the welfare of his child in the hands of the Lord.

When Jairus got the news that she was dead, he didn't dismiss the Lord, He gave her into His care.

We need Dads who will dedicate their children to the Lord.

Jairus completely put his daughter in the hands of God's care.

Dad's, what do your children see in you?

Do they see a Dad who is not ashamed to seek the Lord?

Do they see a Dad who is not ashamed to bring Jesus into the house?

Do they see a Dad who prays for them and commits them into the hands of the Lord?