

PERTH BIBLE CLASS

HE CAME TO WHERE THEY WERE

STUDY 5 – JAIRUS' DAUGHTER

Reading Mark 5 v 21 – 24 & 35 – 43

This incident is also recorded in Matt 9 and Luke 8.

General Points

Last of four great miracles. Rarely can some 50 verses have recorded such dramatic power. Ch 4 v 35 – 41 The storm made a great calm. In Ch 5 the demoniac is controlled, the woman with the issue of blood is cured and Jairus' daughter is raised. All were beyond the help of man.

Throughout ch 5 we note the Lord Jesus dealing with crowds and individuals. In v 17 the people from the Gadarenes "pray him to depart" yet an individual is wonderfully blessed. "The multitude thronging thee" v 31 yet a woman is cured of her disease. In the home He "seeth the tumult and them that wept" v 38 but again only the young 12 year old is blessed. We learn that while crowds may appeal to us the Lord Jesus stretches out to individuals and we all need that personal encounter with Him. In John 6 the Lord Jesus will teach the motives for the crowd are often very superficial v 2 "they saw his miracles" v 26 "ye did eat of the loaves".

The Raising of Jairus' Daughter

v 22 Appreciation of Need – "there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue". Whether he like the woman in the previous incident had tried other possible solutions we are not told but in coming to the Saviour there has to be a deep appreciation of need. We can also observe in this verse his **standing before men** as he was a "ruler". The Saviour would never discriminate based on man's standing. However we are also given to understand his **standing before God** "he fell at his feet". How important to appreciate that no matter how far I rise in my position before men in coming to the Lord Jesus I need to be ever aware that that counts for nothing in His sight. We can observe again in the ch that all three individuals were at the Saviour's feet. The man of Gadara was "sitting at his feet" Luke 8 v 35 and the woman touched the "border of his garment" Luke 8 v 44 (Matt says "hem" 9 v 20).

v 23 Acknowledgement of Faith – The very act of coming to the Saviour in all three miracles is a clear acknowledgement of faith. Of Jairus it is recorded "she may be healed; she shall live". He had no doubts about the ability of the Lord Jesus to effect the miracle. We are instructed to "ask in faith nothing wavering" Jas 1 v 6. Luke would indicate that the miracle at Nain happened before this event so Jairus may have heard of that miracle. **The timing of the meeting** – this was no chance meeting. The young girl was "at the point of death" yet Jesus had left Gadara to cross the sea to return just at the moment when Jairus should approach. How wonderful to again see that God is sovereign in such events. Jairus was **earnest in his appeal to the Saviour** "besought him greatly". The Lord Jesus would pray in Gethsemane "more earnestly" Luke 22 v 44. We need to learn what it is to be earnest in our prayers. Jairus was **specific in his prayer** "my little daughter". Good again to take this as a lesson in prayer.

v 24 Compassion of the Saviour – “went with him”. In the miracle in John 4 where the Nobleman’s son is healed the Lord Jesus gave command and at a distance the healing was accomplished. Here we see him moving with the man. The two on the road to Emmaus in Luke 24 knew the very real experience of “Jesus himself drew near and went with them” v 15. In Old Testament times David wrote “I will fear no evil for thou art with me” Psa 23 v 4. Disciples in receiving the commission of the Lord Jesus were also promised “lo I am with you alway” Matt 28 v 20.

v 35 Faith Tested – Following the approach and healing of the woman with the issue of blood news is brought from Jairus’ house which would test his faith. “Thy daughter is dead”. Surely now human hope is gone and in the words of those who come from the house “why troublest thou the Master any further”. We might wonder did he know about the widow’s son at Nain. Luke seems to indicate that that incident happened before this one. Would he be aware that in the Old Testament both Elijah and Elisha had raised those who were dead.

v 36 Faith Encouraged – Such speculation is really irrelevant as we immediately read “As soon as Jesus heard”. Lovely to note the immediate intervention of the Saviour. Jairus is instructed “Be not afraid, only believe”.

v 37 Disciples are witnesses – As on other occasions Peter James and John are taken with the Lord Jesus into the home. They are also with him on the mount of transfiguration ch 9 and in the garden of Gethsemane in ch 13. On the mount they witness **his glory**, in the garden **his grief** but here **his grace**.

v 39 Description of the damsel – “sleepeth” is the lovely way the Saviour describes her present position. On so many other occasions this is used to describe believer’s who have died. See Matt 27 v 52, Acts 7 v 60, 13 v 36, 1 Cor 11 v 30, 15 v 6, v 18, v 51, 1 Thess 4 v 13, 11 Peter 3 v 4.

v 40 Saviour Rejected – As we indicated earlier the Saviour is rejected by the crowd who had gathered in the home “they laughed him to scorn”. Later in ch 15 at the cross Mark will record they “railed on him wagging their heads” v 29 also “the chief priests mocking” v 31.

v 41 Saviour commands – “Damsel I say unto thee arise” with the same authority as he had rebuked the storm in ch 4 so He will now instruct the young girl.

v 42 The young girl responds – “arose” . The answer to faith. **The evidence of life** “walked”. As those who belong to Christ it is expected that we will “walk in newness of life” Rom 6 v 4.

v 43 Responsibility of her parents – “something should be given her to eat”. Peter will later hear the Lord Jesus say “feed my sheep” John 21 v 16. Elders of the church at Ephesus are instructed by Paul “feed the church of God” Acts 20 v 28. Good that God has gifted those in the Assembly who are able to feed the people of God.