Daily Devotion #75

Faith That Moves God

*Matt 9:21 - “If I only touch His garment, I will get well.”*

It’s amazing how many people in the Scriptures saw God do amazing things simply because of their faith. It was their faith that seemed to unlock the power of God to help them in their times of greatest need. Take for example, the synagogue official, Jairus. He was a man who was a worker for God, a spiritual ruler as well as a ruler over God’s people. When his daughter became ill and died, he sought out Jesus, whom he heard was in town. And because of his faith, God did a wonderful work in his life and his family’s life. He raised Jairus daughter from the dead.

And at the same time, we are told about a woman who had been suffering from a bleeding issue for twelve years. She also sought Jesus when He came to town so she could be healed. And because of her faith, Jesus healed her. *Matt 9:22 - But Jesus turning and seeing her said, “Daughter, take courage; your faith has made you well.” At once the woman was made well.*

Jairus was in a state of panic because his daughter was about to die, and no one could stop it. So, in sheer desperation he sought the One who could help. And Jesus answered his request. The woman had suffered greatly for twelve years with a debilitating sickness that caused her great trouble. She was considered an outcast because the Law would require her to remove herself from society as unclean. If you can imagine the stress of that kind of life it will give you a little understanding of what the woman was going through. No doctor could help, she had to be isolated from her family. Everything she touched would be considered unclean to the rest of those who knew her or who were around her. But it was in that state of life that Jesus answered her prayer. He healed her, not because she touched Him but because He was the only one left who could help her. And He graciously did.

I often wonder what God would do for us in our time if our faith proved to be the only thing left we could depend Have you ever wondered why God doesn’t show Himself with these kinds of miracles today? There are a few answers to the question. First, during the days these events happened, Jesus was making Himself known as God. So, it was a unique time in the world’s history. Secondly, maybe He is, and we don’t hear about them. Third, these two people were desperate for God. They had come to a place in their lives where no one else could help them.

We have been so blessed in our nation to have just about everything at our disposal. We have food brought to our door; our purchases show up at our homes simply by touching a few buttons on our phones. We have immediate access to the world in milliseconds. There isn’t much that we can’t do or have just by a few simple actions. All of which is amazing and an exciting time to be alive. But I fear these things that are so readily available have replaced any need for faith in God.

Jairus and the woman with the bleeding issue had nothing left. They had no were else to turn. Jesus was their only answer. And because they put all their hope in Him, He responded. You might be saying, “I’ve seen Jesus respond in amazing ways with people who were not so hopeless”. That is true and all I can say to that is, God will do what God does. But of all the records we have in Scripture about Jesus or the Father doing miraculous works, were with people who had come to the end of all hope in what they could do.

Perhaps one of our downfalls as the people of God is that we don’t need Jesus. We can do it ourselves with enough time and money and fortitude. What if we started living with the faith of Jairus and this dear woman? I wonder what God would do then? Oh, that’s right, He would move mountains for us. Matthew 21:21 - *“Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ it will happen.*