



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Two Daughters - 2

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In the Gospel According to Luke (AD 60-61), Luke, a Gentile, is writing to Theophilus so that he would know the exact truth and record regarding the things he had been taught about Jesus the Messiah. Luke provided numerous testimonies of Jesus' identity as the Savior and Messiah. Jesus, during His ministry, traveled to many cities sharing scripture, teaching forgiving sin, physically healing people of demons and disease, and raising the dead. Jesus began to challenge the religious rituals of the day and most importantly shared the Kingdom of God. On this occasion, Luke describes a time that Jesus was headed to a ruler of the synagogue's home to heal his daughter and interrupts the journey to heal a woman with an incurable illness. As Jesus stops to heal the poor woman, the ruler's daughter dies.

"While He was still speaking, someone came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, "Your daughter has died; do not trouble the Teacher anymore." But when Jesus heard this, He answered him, "Do not be afraid any longer; only believe, and she will be made well." When He came to the house, He did not allow anyone to enter with Him, except Peter and John and James, and the girl's father and mother. Now they were all weeping and lamenting for her; but He said, "Stop weeping, for she has not died, but is asleep." And they began laughing at Him, knowing that she had died. He, however, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Child, arise!" And her spirit returned, and she got up immediately; and He gave orders for something to be given her to eat. Her parents were amazed; but He instructed them to tell no one what had happened." (Luke 8:49-56 NASB; Mt 9:23-26; Mk 6:5:35-43)

Jesus speaks about faith and believing. Luke describes in prior verses that Jesus had just healed a poor woman of a disease that was incurable, refers to her as daughter, and tells her that her faith has made her well and that she go in peace. While Jesus is sharing this message to the woman someone from the official's house shares that the official's daughter is dead and not to trouble the Teacher, Jesus, anymore.

Jesus responds by telling Jairus to not be afraid, only believe and his daughter will be made well. Jesus had told the poor woman that her faith had made her well and to the official that believing would make his daughter well. The faith of the poor woman and the belief of the rich official, in Jesus, made them well, "made them whole" or "to be saved".

Peter, John and James. Luke describe that when Jesus arrived at Jairus' house, after ridicule from the mourners, He took only Peter, James, John and the parents into the house. Peter, John and James were also selectively chosen to witness the Transfiguration (Mt 17:1) and Jesus' agony in the garden (Mk 14:33). This time they witnessed a twelve year old girl raised from the dead. Jesus said "Child, arise!" and Luke describes that her spirit returned, she immediately got up and ate. Just like calming the water and the wind; just like allowing the demons to leave the man; and now raising a dead little girl, Jesus spoke and it was done.

Jesus instructs them to silence. Jesus instructs them to not tell anyone about what had happen. While Luke describes in prior verses that Jesus had told a man healed of demons (8:39) to tell the great things that God had done for him, Jesus now tells Jairus, an official in the local synagogue, not to tell anyone. What changed? The man who was healed of a demon was likely a gentile and in a land not near his traditional ministry area. However, Jairus was an official at the local synagogue and many of the Jewish leaders of the day were not pleased with the action of Jesus and looked for events to discredit and challenge Him. On this occasion and others (Mt 8:4) Jesus did not want to cause events to take place before His time, the perfect time.

For Your Consideration:

- As an official in the synagogue, what big risk did Jairus take by believing in Jesus?
- What returned to the little girl that had left upon death?

BIBLE STUDIES

LEGISLATORS: SESSION OR HEARING WEDNESDAYS AT 7:30AM, STATEHOUSE RM. 44

STAFF, LOBBYISTS AND CAPITOL SQUARE COMMUNITY: WEDNESDAYS AT NOON, STATEHOUSE RM.44