

# Authority: Disease and Death

## Introduction

*a passage  
Rob preached  
last week*

In verse 25 of chapter 8, Jesus asks his disciples, "Where is your faith?" A synagogue ruler named Jairus and a woman with a 12-year blood discharge answer that question the way true disciples Jesus should.

### Luke 8:40-56 ESV

<sup>40</sup> Now when Jesus returned, the crowd welcomed him, for they were all waiting for him. <sup>41</sup> And there came a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue. And falling at Jesus' feet, he implored him to come to his house, <sup>42</sup> for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying.

As Jesus went, the people pressed around him. <sup>43</sup> And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, and though she had spent all her living on physicians, she could not be healed by anyone. <sup>44</sup> She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, and immediately her discharge of blood ceased. <sup>45</sup> And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!" <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me." <sup>47</sup> And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. <sup>48</sup> And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

<sup>49</sup> While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more."<sup>50</sup> But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well." <sup>51</sup> And when he came to the house, he allowed no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. <sup>52</sup> And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, "Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping." <sup>53</sup> And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." <sup>55</sup> And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given her to eat. <sup>56</sup> And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

**Main Idea: For those who do not doubt but trust, Jesus' boundless compassion and matchless authority ensure salvation.**

**Let's consider 5 elements from the main idea which convey the meaning and purpose of this passage: salvation, authority, compassion, trust, and doubt.**

## Doubt

Doubt distances us from the salvation that Jesus offers.

Doubt has many faces:

1. <sup>45</sup> And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and are pressing in on you!" <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me."
  - a. Sometimes reasonableness and rational thinking masquerade as wisdom and shrewdness when in reality they are a demonstration of doubt born out of ignorance. *Faith says "we want to raise up missionaries." Rational/logical "that will cost more money"*
  - b. Clearly the sense of skepticism of the question that Jesus posed
  - c. Do you camouflage your unbelief by projecting reasonableness? *by being logical?*
2. <sup>52</sup> And all were weeping and mourning for her, but he said, "Do not weep, for she is not dead but sleeping." <sup>53</sup> And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead.
  - a. Mocking and derision are at the other end of the spectrum of how doubt presents itself.
  - b. The crowds can be fickle
    - i. The crowd on the other side of the lake desired Jesus to leave
    - ii. The crowd on this side of the lake welcomed him
    - iii. The crowd at Jairus' house laughed at him
    - iv. Pre-game versus post-game after a loss.
  - c. Crowds can be fickle; followers must not be.
3. <sup>49</sup> While he was still speaking, someone from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more."
  - a. Sometimes doubt puts on a mask of humility.
 

*↳ Do you take a "humble" posture in prayer that is really a cover for doubt?*

Are you somewhere else in the spectrum of doubt and unbelief? Worry? Anxiety? What does your doubt look like? Is it obvious? Is it hidden? Have you ever evaluated yourself in this regard?

Trust

*My doubt often displays itself as anger. Often when I am angry it is in situations that evoke a sense of doubt in God... not trusting him!*

Theologians often provide three aspects of faith when they define it:

1. Knowledge – understanding the content of God’s revelation
  2. Belief – believing the content of God’s revelation is true
  3. Trust – allowing oneself to be governed by the revelation
- a well-rounded healthy faith will include all 3 components!*

In this passage of two intertwined miracles, Jesus affirms that faith in him—an understanding and belief that he can save and a submission of your life to that truth—is the appropriate response that leads to salvation.

- <sup>48</sup> And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.”

Jesus indicates that the woman’s knowledge of Jesus as a miracle worker, combined with her belief that this is true and her willingness to govern her life by this truth has been imperative in her receiving the salvation Jesus offers

- <sup>50</sup> But Jesus on hearing this answered him, “Do not fear; only believe, and she will be well.”

Jesus admonishes Jairus to understand and believe that he can save his daughter by God’s power and goodness; Jesus’ compassion and authority would ensure his daughter’s salvation and he should act in a way that corresponds with his faith.

*(Jairus)*

Where do you need to see the saving power of God this morning? In what areas of your life do you need the compassionate and authoritative Son of God to work salvation for you? In those areas, ask yourself, do I understand that Jesus saves, and how do I believe that to be true, and am I living my life in a way that reflects that?

*and how he saves in this situation?*

- relational conflict
- financial difficulties
- health problems
- spiritual malaise
- emotional turmoil

## Compassion

Jesus shows compassion—sympathy for people’s plight with a desire to help—to a wide-ranging group of people — *disciples, demoniacs*

### Jairus

- likely the main leader in the synagogue
- a man of significant religious, social, and political standing

### The woman with the discharge of blood

- 12 years of suffering; uterine hemorrhage
- continually unclean, continually embarrassed
- relationally limited, religiously excluded, financially ruined
- a woman with minimal social, religious, and political stature
- This woman had bled as long as Jairus’ daughter had lived!
- Jesus calls her daughter!

### Jairus’ daughter

- an only daughter, at an age where she is becoming a woman and marriage is possible

Jesus’ compassion knows no bounds! Irrespective of your economic capacity, intellectual prowess, physical attributes, ethnic background, demographic markers, educational accomplishments, geographic location, Jesus desires your salvation. Glory in that truth.

↳ if you're doubting that... cause **faith** to rise up by:

- 1) gaining understanding of the boundless compassion of Christ
- 2) Ask the Spirit to help you believe
- 3) Live your life in submission to the truth of Jesus' compassion

## Authority

Jesus displays his comprehensive authority.

Authority has been defined as the power and right to do something.

Jesus’ power is continually being displayed: natural forces, supernatural powers, disease, and death. His right to do so is based on his Lordship; he is God, the sovereign creator and ruler of the universe.

## THIS IS THE JESUS WE ARE TALKING ABOUT:

**Colossians 1:15-20 ESV** <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

**Natural forces** - <sup>24</sup> And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm.

**Spiritual forces** - <sup>30</sup> Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup> And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. <sup>32</sup> Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup> Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

**Disease** - <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me." <sup>47</sup> And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed.

**Death** - <sup>53</sup> And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." <sup>55</sup> And her spirit returned, and she got up at once.

- • With little hope – 12 years of suffering ...not a small problem!
- • Without hope – don't even bother coming because she is dead

Jesus has no peers when it comes to authority save the other persons of the Godhead—God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

Do you believe this? If no, read the Gospels and ask people for their testimony of what Christ has done in their lives.

## Salvation

Our doubt has many faces; Christ's salvation has many more! The one with matchless authority is also the one with boundless compassion so he not only has the ability and right to save, he also desires to save. And he works his salvation in many diverse ways.

### Woman with the discharge of blood:

<sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone touched me, for I perceive that power has gone out from me." <sup>47</sup> And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. <sup>48</sup> And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

• *This is a strange sort of saving work*

- The salvation working in this instances was unintentional?
- **Acts 5:14-15 ESV** <sup>14</sup> And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, <sup>15</sup> so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them.
- This is also a salvation that was long-awaited for
- Made you well = physical healing
- Go in peace = relationship with God is restored
- Bock: "Years of agony and embarrassment are reversed in one brief touch."

### Jairus' daughter - *a saving work which looks considerably different*

<sup>54</sup> But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." <sup>55</sup> And her spirit returned, and she got up at once. And he directed that something should be given her to eat. <sup>56</sup> And her parents were amazed, but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.

- This salvation was intentional and appeared late
- It was at the behest of someone on whom the miraculous power would not directly fall.

- Even more spectacular than a healing because there is no remedy for death. It demonstrated Jesus' power more convincingly.
- **Ryle:** "Let us take comfort in the thought, that there is a limit to death's power. The *king of terrors* is very strong. How many generations he has mowed down and swept into the dust! How many of the wise and strong, and lovely — he has swallowed down and snatched away in their prime! How many victories he has won, and how often he has written "Vanity of vanities!" on the pride of man! Patriarchs, and kings, and prophets, and apostles — have all in turn been obliged to yield to him. They have all died. But thanks be unto God, there is one stronger than death."

**Main Idea:** For those who do not doubt but trust, Jesus' boundless compassion and matchless authority ensure salvation. Therefore, trust in Jesus for salvation!

Have you trusted in Jesus for salvation in regards to sin and its consequences?

- GOSPEL – compassion and authority *in Christ's work*

Have you trusted in Jesus for salvation in regards to your current trials and suffering?

- Jesus wants to work salvation in that situation

*- do not doubt, but have faith that Jesus - who has boundless compassion and matchless authority - have faith that he saves.*

*listen to how Bishop J.C. Ryle describes this salvation!*