

'Luke' - Extra Teaching Points #13

Luke 8:22-56 (NASB95)

Luke 8:22-25

"Now on one of those days Jesus and His disciples got into a boat, and He said to them, "Let us go over to the other side of the lake." So they launched out. ²³ But as they were sailing along He fell asleep; and a fierce gale of wind descended on the lake, and they began to be swamped and to be in danger. ²⁴ They came to Jesus and woke Him up, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And He got up and rebuked the wind and the surging waves, and they stopped, and it became calm. ²⁵ And He said to them, "Where is your faith?" They were fearful and amazed, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey Him?"

Vs. 23 Jesus was asleep because He was worn out from ministry.

- Mark 3:20 says the crowds were so big that Jesus couldn't even get time for a meal... probably didn't sleep much either.

Vs. 24 *"Master, Master, we are perishing!"*

- This was not just a statement of fact; they were questioning why Jesus was letting this happen to them.
 - Mark 4:38 *"Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?"*

Q: Why would Jesus question their faith in verse 25?

- Jesus said they were going to the other side of the lake, but they didn't trust that He would get them there alive!
 - They doubted His care for them, which reveals they didn't fully trust Him.
- If God says we're going somewhere, then we will get there... regardless of the obstacles and tests that come along the way.

Q: If they were shocked at Jesus calming the storm and sea, what were they expecting Him to do when they cried out to Him?

- They didn't know what He could do, but they knew He was the one to ask.
 - Vs. 25 They ask "Who is this?"
 - Psalm 107:23-31 seems to give the answer.
- We may be threatened by storms, but God will use them to reveal who He is, and how much He cares for us.

Luke 8:26-3

"Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ And when He came out onto the land, He was met by a man from the city who was possessed with demons; and who had not put on any clothing for a long time, and was not living in a house, but in the tombs. ²⁸ Seeing Jesus, he cried out and fell before Him, and said in a loud voice, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg You, do not torment me." ²⁹ For He had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For it had seized him many times; and he was bound with chains and shackles and kept under guard, and yet he would break his bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert. ³⁰ And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They were imploring Him not to command them to go away into the abyss. ³² Now there was a herd of many swine feeding there on the mountain; and the demons implored Him to permit them to enter the swine. And He gave them permission.

³³ And the demons came out of the man and entered the swine; and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned. ³⁴ When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they ran away and reported it in the city and out in the country. ³⁵ The people went out to see what had happened; and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting down at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they became frightened. ³⁶ Those who had seen it reported to them how the man who was demon-possessed had been made well. ³⁷ And all the people of the country of the Gerasenes and the surrounding district asked Him to leave them, for they were gripped with great fear; and He got into a boat and returned. ³⁸ But the man from whom the demons had gone out was begging Him that he might accompany Him; but He sent him away, saying, ³⁹ **“Return to your house and describe what great things God has done for you.”** So he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city what great things Jesus had done for him.”

More Info on this story:

This story is also found in [Matt 8:28-34](#) & [Mark 5:1-20](#).

- There is some controversy over the location where this took place.
 - Translations that come from the Alexandrian Codex are different from those translations that come from the Textus Receptus.
 - Textus Receptus Bibles say “the country of the **Gadarenes**” while the Alexandrian Bibles say “the country of the **Gerasenes**.”
 - In [Matt 8:28](#) they flip-flop... Alexandrian Bibles say Gadarenes and Textus Receptus Bible say Gerasenes.
 - Matthew, Mark, and Luke don’t agree with each other in any of the texts.
- Gerasa was about 40 miles south-east of the lake. Gadara is 6 miles away and separated by the deep gorge of the Yarmuk.
 - These are about 34 miles away from each other; in other words, they are not the same town.



- All of the accounts say this happened in the country or region of Gerasenes or Gadarenes... not the town.
 - Jesus met Legion as soon as He stepped out of the boat, so they were at least 6 miles from the closest town.
 - It is possible that one of the towns was under the jurisdiction of the other.
 - For instance “*in the Alton area*” or “*in the Madison County area*” could be referring to the same location.
 - No one knows for sure about the political boundaries of this area at the time.

[Matt. 8:28](#) says there are two demon-possessed men who met Jesus, while Luke and Mark record only one.

- Some critics have claimed this is a contradiction; however the story is about one of the men. Not mentioning the other man, isn’t necessarily denying he was there.
- Matthew simply gave more detail.

[Vs. 28](#) The demon-possessed man reacted to seeing Jesus the way other demon-possessed people reacted to Him ([Luke 4:33-34](#)), asking Jesus not to destroy or torment them.

- **The demons did not want to be near Jesus... they were terrified of Him.**
- This is significant, because this man, with more demons than any other person in the Bible, went up to Jesus and met Him when He got out of the boat.
 - **It wasn’t the demons that led him up to Jesus; it was the man’s decision to approach Jesus.**
 - Some people think that demon-possessed people are under the absolute control of the demon; but demon-possessed people can respond to Jesus if they want to.

[Vs. 29](#) records that Jesus had already commanded the demons to leave, but these demons were somehow able to stay in the man long enough to try and negotiate with Jesus.

- Usually we find that the demons leave immediately when Jesus commands them to leave.
- **This suggests that there are different kinds of demons, and different degrees of demon-possession.**
 - Some demons are so terrified of Jesus that they run away at the mention of His name.
 - Other demons are so bold they will try to resist Jesus.

[Luke 8:40-48](#)

“And as Jesus returned, the people welcomed Him, for they had all been waiting for Him. ⁴¹ And there came a man named Jairus, and he was an official of the synagogue; and he fell at Jesus’ feet, and began to implore Him to come to his house; ⁴² for he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, and she was dying. But as He went, the crowds were pressing against Him. ⁴³ And a woman who had a hemorrhage for twelve years, and could not be healed by anyone, ⁴⁴ came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His cloak, and immediately her hemorrhage stopped. ⁴⁵ And Jesus said, “Who is the one who touched Me?” And while they were all denying it, Peter said, “Master, the people are crowding and pressing in on You.” ⁴⁶ But Jesus said, “Someone did touch Me, for I was aware that power had gone out of Me.” ⁴⁷ When the woman saw that she had not escaped notice, she came trembling and fell down before Him, and declared in the presence of all the people the reason why she had touched Him, and how she had been immediately healed. ⁴⁸ And He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.”

This story is also told in [Mark 5:25-34](#), and [Matt 9:20-22](#).

Q: Jesus is being pressed on every side, and touched by a large number of people. Why is the woman with the hemorrhaging trouble the only one that got anything from Jesus?

- [Mark 5:28](#) says the woman believed if she could just touch Jesus' clothes, she would get well.
- In [verse 48](#) Jesus told the woman that her faith had made her well.
 - Apparently, you can have contact with Jesus, have no faith, and get nothing from Him.
 - **Just being around Jesus won't change you!**
 - But if you have contact with Jesus, *and have faith*, you do get something from Him.
 - **Faith is having a high enough opinion of Jesus to trust what He says and act on it.**

Luke 8:49-56

"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." ⁵⁰ But when Jesus heard this, He answered him, "Do not be afraid any longer; only believe, and she will be made well." ⁵¹ 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. ⁵² Now they were all weeping and lamenting for her; but He said, "Stop weeping, for she has not died, but is asleep." ⁵³ And they began laughing at Him, knowing that she had died. ⁵⁴ He, however, took her by the hand and called, saying, "Child, arise!" ⁵⁵ And her spirit returned, and she got up immediately; and He gave orders for something to be given her to eat. ⁵⁶ Her parents were amazed; but He instructed them to tell no one what had happened."

Q: Why did Jesus say Jairus' daughter was only asleep?

- Sleep is a metaphor for death.
 - Jesus said this about Lazarus too ([John 11:11](#)).
- Jesus could have been trying to reassure the parents, or simply trying to avoid publicity ([vs. 56](#)).
- **It could be that Jesus is giving us some insight into what death is like.**
 - [Rev 20:6](#) *"Blessed and holy are those who share in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years."*
 - The first death is not the end of a person... their spirit still exists.
 - However, the second death may be different.
 - [Rev. 21:4](#) *"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."*
 - Eventually death will be done away with.
 - [1Cor. 15:20-26](#) *"But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. ²¹ For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming, ²⁴ then comes the end, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy that will be abolished is death."*

Follow Up Assignment

Q: What are the storms you are facing right now?

- How is God using them to reveal to you who He is, and how He cares for you?

What we learn from the woman with the bleeding problem:

- Just being around Jesus won't change you; but if you have contact with Jesus, *and have faith*, you do get something from Him!

Q: Is going to Church and discipleship group changing you?

- If so, how?
- If not, why not?