

The Resolution and the Resolve

Luke 8:48 - 50

Nutshell: In back-to-back admonitions, Jesus says, “Go in peace,” for the resolution of your problem *has been* achieved. Then He says, “Do not fear,” admonishing our resolve to trust in His intention *to do* us good. The past and the future in hand.

I. Context: The healing of two daughters.

II. Text

Luke 8:48 And He said to her, “Take courage, daughter. Your faith has saved you. Be going on to peace.”

or, “Go unto peace” (NENT), or “Go within peace.”

Literal Standard Version with modifications

The next four outline items, III. - VI., are based on the 4 uses of Scripture listed in 2 Tim 3:16 AND the 3 depictions of preaching in 2 Tim 4:2.

III. Teaching

A. An outline of Luke to this point

I. About this Letter: So you’ll know about this Jesus, 1:1-4

II. Testimonies to Messiah’s coming. A boyhood turning point, 1:5–2:52

III. John proclaims repentance for Christ’s coming, 3:1 – 20

IV. Messiah’s Entry Credentials: Baptism and Genealogy, 3:21–38

V. His Initiation: Fasting and Temptation, 4:1 - 13

VI. His Self-Introduction and Hometown Rejection, 4:14 - 30

VII. Jesus: The FIRST MAN with all authority over demons, sickness, and nature, 4:31 - 5:11

VIII. Turning-Point Healings, 5:12 – 32

A. Repatriating a leper, 5:12 – 16, touching the unclean outcast to preview His taking of our exile/ disease into Himself

1. Israel’s unclean laws were pictures of spiritual reality

2. Uncleanness pictured death and alienation from God. Jesus came to gain ascendancy over both.

B. Forgiving sin, 5:17 – 26, thus declaring His Deity

C. Healing/ renewal of a man’s (Matthew’s) soul, 5:27 – 32

IX. New and Old Covenants:

- A. NC = OC *replacement*, ~~patch-up~~, 5:33–39. NC: Law in ♥.
- B. 6:1-11, OC Sabbath *strict*, but intended as a *help*.

X. Picking the 12, 6:12-16,; teaching / etc., incl. Tyrites, 6:17-19

XI. Jesus' manifesto: the **SERMON ON THE PLAIN, 6:20-49**

- A. *Earthly* evidence of the *spiritual* traits in the Sermon on the Mt. (Matt 5). Literal poor vs. rich. We are to love our haters. We must give generously, living by pity.
- B. Only right teaching creates right living. Convict *self* 1st. Only building on Christ will survive life's floodplains.

XII. Messiah's Mission Portrayed in His Interactions

- A. Forecast: A **Gentile** seeks Jesus for a healing, Lk 7:1-10
- B. Forecast: Hope still held out to **Israel**: Nain widow, 11-17
- C. John's Q. A.: 2 diverse comings & an interval, 7:24-30
- D. John & Jesus differently wise. Both rejected, 7:31-35
- E. Love for Jesus is tied to forgiveness. The sinful woman had both; Simon the Pharisee lacked both, 7:36-50.
- F. 8:1-15, 4 Soils = 4 kinds of "hearing" of the Word. Only a "virtuous and sound heart" is living and fruit-bearing
 - 1. Hence, take care **HOW** you hear that Word, 8:16-18.
 - 2. Mary as mom not an insider; Word-doers only, 8:19-21
- G. It is a Word of power
 - 1. Silencing a gale & stilling 10 trillion lbs. of H₂O, 22-25
 - 2. Casting out a legion of demons, 26-39
 - 3. A Word of **healing** power, 40-56
 - a. A synagogue head pleads for his dying daughter
 - b. On the way, a woman hemorrhaging for 12 years touches the hem of his robe and is healed, 43-44
 - c. 12 = symbol for Israel
 - i. The 12-yr old girl's healing = Israel need not die
 - ii. The woman's = Israel need not be estranged
 - d. Her faith in Jesus saved her
- B. 8:48-50, Jesus' sendoff for the woman assures her of His approval of her healing and of her continued life of faith. Jesus' encouragement for Jairus sets him in testing ground, whether He has put things in Jesus' hands or not.

Outline:

- I. Jesus tells the woman, "Go in peace," v 48
- II. But Jairus' situation looks dire. His daughter died, v 49

- III. But Jesus answers by telling him not to fear, v 50
 - A. He tells Jairus to limit himself to belief
 - B. For Jesus' intention was to see her rescue through
- C. Luke 8:48, "Go into peace"
 - 1. The same Gk. phrase Jesus told the sinful woman in 7:50
 - 2. This incident in Mk 5:34 uses a different word for "go." This means that Jesus' words were more extensive than Luke's or Mark's summary,
 - a. and Luke summarized them differently than Mark, but both accurately;
 - b. or Jesus said both phrases as part of a longer admonition to the woman.

Kid-speak: What is peace? It's when we don't think trouble can hurt us. Do we need peace? Yes! Does Jesus tell us to have peace? Yes.

- D. "Go." Jesus told others to "go."
 - 1. The paralytic, to go home, Lk 5:24
 - 2. A Law expert, to do like the good Samaritan in the story, Lk 10:37
 - 3. The healed Samaritan leper, Lk 17:19 (with "your faith has saved you")
 - 4. A nobleman seeking his son's healing, Jn 4:50
 - 5. The adulterous woman, Jn 8:11 ("and sin no more")
 - 6. Sending Mary to His brothers after the Resurrection, Jn 20:17
 - 7. Ananias to go to blinded Saul, Acts 9:15
 - 8. Saul to go to Damascus, Acts 22:10; 21
- E. Add "going"/ "having gone" to an imperative, and we have:
 - 1. The Great Commission, Matt 28:19, going, make disciples
 - 2. Or Mk 16:15, going, proclaim to all
 - 3. Going, learn the meaning of 'I want mercy, not sacrifice,' Matt 9:13
- F. But we would probably grade our "go" the best of all: "go in peace."
 - 1. That means He has graded our situation **OK**
 - a. Quite a paradigm shifter, if we weren't there yet
 - b. Come to Jesus with problems; leave with them in His hands (and our main snag literally in His pierced hands.)

2. He approves of our presence *before* Him and going *from* Him
 3. He will go *with* us
 - a. More so after the Resurrection
 - b. And with the Spirit in us
 4. Is this good stuff, or what!
- G. But this peace is quite contrary to our natural condition, Rom 3:17
1. We were enemies with God, Rom 8:6-7
 2. Our reconciliation tends to arouse hostility in those around us still at war with God, Lk 12:51
 3. Note in Lk 19:38 the crowd's recognition of the need for peace in Heaven, where God is naturally disquieted against our sin
 4. But Jesus specifically overcomes our natural condition, both its penalty and power, Eph 2:11-15
 - a. The conquest residing in His victory, Jn 16:33
 - b. Now His kingdom IN us includes peace, Rom 14:17
 - c. In His Spirit, Jn 14:27
 - d. But we have to strive after it, Rom 14:19; Eph 4:3
 5. Mental peace is indeed a powerful potion, beyond our reckoning, Philip 4:7

Kid-speak: What else is peace? It's when we're not fighting anymore. Did we used to fight against God? Yes. But God said we can have peace with Him because Jesus died for our sins. Do you want that peace?

- H. A specific command concerning **peace** is to make it the judge, umpire, or (most literally) awarder of prizes (the guy with the final say) in our hearts, Col 3:15
1. Of which, thankfulness (expressing it) is a necessary subsidiary, Col 3:15
 2. Our ubiquitous need of it is seen in 2 Thess 3:16
 - a. Always
 - b. In every way (imagine all the ways). All ways.
- I. You and I will go from this place today. Let us hear the word of Christ to the woman. Let us go in peace.
1. We can only imagine she did so. But she faced the same opposition to it you and I will.
 2. We'll compare notes with her in Heaven

Luke 8:49 As He was yet speaking, someone came from the synagogue ruler, saying to him, "Your daughter has died. Do not trouble the teacher."

J. Back to the other story!

1. The hemorrhaging woman caught him on the way to healing Jairus' daughter
2. Now we take up that account again

K. "From the synagogue ruler," meaning from his house

L. Note that Jesus is called "the teacher," not the healer, even though it sometimes seemed that He mainly healed

1. Taken all together, His teaching ministry must have far outweighed His healings, though His healings were extensive
 - a. We see indications of this in Luke's record so far
 - b. But Jesus' healings were really part of His message of God's goodwill and power.
2. His healings were also proof of His authenticity as the Christ
3. But many whom He healed did *not* imbibe His teachings. They didn't "abide in His Word." They got what they wanted from Him, and- thank you very much- that was it.

Kid-speak: Jesus was a teacher. So if we come to Him, what do *we* have to be? Students/ learners. Do you want Jesus to teach you? Keep learning the Bible. That's Him teaching.

M. "Don't trouble the teacher." Instances of His raising people from the dead, such as in Lk 7:15, must not have gotten as much attention. Maybe they were dismissed as exaggeration.

Luke 8:50 But hearing, Jesus answered him, saying, "Do not fear; only believe, and she will be saved."

N. "Do not fear"

1. Ah, that encouraging, convicting, and utterly necessary command!
2. Jesus lovingly commands it in the face of discouraging news
3. In this Gk form, occurring in 10 vv.
 - a. Mostly Lukan

- b. ↓ Lk 1:13, 30; 5:10; 8:50; 12:32; Acts 18:9; 27:24
 - c. To Zacharias, Mary, the disciples after the fish catch, and 12:32, “~~Fear~~, little flock, for it’s the Father’s good intention to give you the Kingdom.”
 - d. In Acts, the Lord and an angel speaking to Paul in difficulty
4. “Go in peace”; “Do not fear.” *This Guy is encouraging!*
 - a. And saying exactly what we all need and want to hear
 - b. But who else can really give us those reassurances on good authority? Anyone else is just whistling in the dark.
 - c. Unless speaking in His name
 5. But now that He’s said it, He stands behind it.
 - a. If He stands behind it, we need to ask, “How *dare* I not believe? How dare I fear?” Isa 51:12

Kid-speak: Jesus said, “Don’t be afraid,” even though the man’s daughter had died. Is Jesus more powerful than death?

- O. “Only believe”
 1. Only believe. Μόνον πίστευε. Seems like I never heard that before now.
 2. **Only** believe. Believe and nothing more.
 3. That is, just let that one activity occupy you. Banish all else.
 4. Indicating also this: It’s *there before you for the taking*
 - a. Jairus has just seen Jesus *heal**
 - b. Jesus was *on His way*** to heal again
 - c. Believing in Jesus *power and **good intention were all Jairus needed to settle on
 5. What *we* know about Jesus is there before us. *All we have to do is... believe*
- P. Ya’ll have probably heard me cast aspersions on “all you have to do is” as an evangelistic phrase
 1. Nothing like it occurs in the Acts evangelistic messages
 2. You might, though, say that it occurs here
 3. But I’d still argue that “Only believe” can’t be simply transmuted to “All you have to do to be saved is to believe.”
 - a. “Only believe” is more like: block out factors contrary to belief
 - b. “All you have to do” is more like: It’s easy-breezy, 1-2-threezy. Jesus certainly wasn’t implying that.
 4. Plus, Jesus’ admonition is for a father *on behalf of* a daughter

for *physical* resurrection. We might claim a disconnect with *spiritual* salvation.

- a. But no, it can be rightly transferred to someone who's been informed of *spiritual* resurrection and their need for it. Now that you know, believe. Only believe.
 - b. But even then, "only believe" includes what "all you have to do" leaves out: **focus**
 - c. (By the way, that is one advancement I think I'm aware of the Spirit giving me post laying-on-of-hands. More focus and (consequently) less fear.)
5. One factor that is conveyed in both phrases we're comparing is the SIMPLICITY of faith
- a. Once it's established *whom* is to be believed *for what*, faith is UNCOMPLICATED. That is, it goes right to the point.
 - b. God is simple too, with fairly much the same meaning. (God's simplicity is an actual theological term.)
 - c. It means He is not made of components put together. He is a whole. He is simple in His *being*.
 - d. Faith, too, is simple in its *activity*. It 'sees' and it lays hold of.
6. So "only believe" and "all you have to do" are both simple
- a. But the latter implies a 1-time plug-in: "Just do this and you're done"
 - b. The former, Biblical formula avoids that, saying, "Keep hold of this and *stay* in"

Kid-speak: Jesus said to think about ONE thing: that He is strong enough to help us. We *especially* need to do that- when? When we're afraid.

Q. "Don't fear!"

1. Or, as the ISV renders the present tense, "Stop being afraid."
2. "Only believe" works in the context of fear knocking at the door. Fear is there, but exclude it: do *solely* this.

R. "And she will be saved"

1. Again, "saved," not "healed," though healing would be at least the immediate *type* of salvation
 - a. Did this deliver her from sickness the rest of her life?
 - b. No. That's why neither Jesus' ministry nor ours is essentially physical healing
2. The book of Acts, with all its wonderful healings, was still

paring down from Jesus' volume of healings

3. The final 'mix', the Epistles, finds healings a 'coming to' rather than 'going forth', Jms 5:14
 - a. With confession of sins as the *preventive* care to avoid *remedial* care, Jms 5:16
 - b. That's our new, ongoing mentality and practice
- S. But to "go in peace" still requires the calm resolution of soul as our response *plus* the determined resolve not to cave to fear, which is always digging trenches it seems we'll fall into

IV. For the Walking Wounded (1 Thess 5:14, "Uphold the strengthless")
What better words? "Go in peace." "Don't fear."

V. Conviction (2 Tim 4:2, "Convince, rebuke"): **What have I done wrong?
How have I lost righteousness?**
Jesus, I know I am fearful. I have difficulty embracing Your peace.

VI. Correction/ Realignment (2 Tim 4:2, "Exhort/encourage"):
How will I correct my error? How will I regain uprightness?
Master, help me know my fears and see them for the direct challenge to Your peace that they are.

VII. Schooling in Righteousness: **How do I take this on the road?**
Psalm 118:6 YHWH Jesus *is* for me; I will not fear; what can man do to me? (See Ps 56:4, 11)

Wrap-up: The resolution: Jesus solved our case before we even know about it! "It is finished." Therefore, we are to go forth and walk the earth and live before men in peace.

The resolve: Fear is there. It's my natural response. But I have a *paracletos*, one "called alongside" to help me. He is an authorized carrier of Jesus' unique (Jn 14:27) peace. I am therefore resolved that I will simply believe in Jesus' good intentions towards me. I will not fear.