

## The Afflicted Woman Healed

The Afflicted Woman Healed, or The Woman Who Touched His Garment!

Matthew 9:18-26; Mark 5:21-43; Luke 8:40-56

### Matthew 9:18-26

<sup>18</sup> While he was saying these things to them, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." <sup>19</sup> And Jesus rose and followed him, with his disciples. <sup>20</sup> And behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, <sup>21</sup> for she said to herself, "If I only touch his garment, I will be made well." <sup>22</sup> Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. <sup>23</sup> And when Jesus came to the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, <sup>24</sup> he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. <sup>25</sup> But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose. <sup>26</sup> And the report of this went through all that district.

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### Mark 5:21-43

<sup>21</sup> And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. <sup>22</sup> Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet <sup>23</sup> and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." <sup>24</sup> And he went with him.

And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. <sup>25</sup> And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, <sup>26</sup> and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. <sup>27</sup> She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. <sup>28</sup> For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." <sup>29</sup> And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. <sup>30</sup> And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" <sup>31</sup> And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?'" <sup>32</sup> And he looked around to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

<sup>35</sup> While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?"  
<sup>36</sup> But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe."<sup>37</sup> And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. <sup>38</sup> They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup> And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." <sup>40</sup> And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup> Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." <sup>42</sup> And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. <sup>43</sup> And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

#### **Luke 8:40-56**

<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<sup>f</sup> 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.

William Taylor called the healing of the afflicted woman the "parenthetical miracle." Jesus was on His way to the house of Jairus to raise his daughter from the dead when a woman comes up from behind Him and touches His garment.

Sometimes as we are working on some important matter something else must be tended to, and it too may be important. Just this way Jesus heals a woman while going to do another miracle.

Luke's word "pressed about Him" "thronged" {8:42} means they nearly suffocated Him.

But in that throng of people there is one soul in the multitudes with a purpose. She has suffered for 12 years with a disease that no physician could cure – in fact; she had spent all her living on the doctors.

She was ashamed and perhaps ceremonially unclean. She believed that if she could get to Jesus she would be made well. Her faith was not in her act of touching, but on getting close to Jesus. The moment she touched His garment, the electric thrill of healing tingled through her body!

Perhaps there was an element of superstition in her touching the hem of His garment. Our Lord, "who does not break the bruised reed nor quench the smoking flax," did not rebuke her.

Jesus cured her by an act of His divine will and then he brought her to intelligent faith. How? “Who touched my clothes?” {Mark 5:30}

He already knew who had touched His clothes, but she needed to be publicly identified for her own good as well as the crowd who was watching. There is no hint that Jesus was surprised or that He acted involuntarily.

The disciples were amazed at such a question. Peter, who is often the one who speaks, now says what they all are thinking, “Master, the multitudes throng You and press You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’ ” {Luke 8:45}

He knew all about the woman and now she knew Him and knew that he knew. She publicly confesses Christ. She was doubly cured; her disease was stopped and she was delivered from sin.

ROCK OF AGES, Augustus Toplady,  
“Be of sin the double cure, save from wrath and make me pure,”

“Go in peace,” is not just a phrase, e.g., “Have a good day,” or “Farewell.” It is “Go into peace.”

She was immediately and completely well. No physician was able to help her, in fact she was getting worse. She was “freely” cured after she had “spent all of her living’ on the doctors. Christ’s gift is exactly that, a gift!

Like this woman we must get to Christ. Not physically, but in the same reality.

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