

Just Because He Cares

Sharing once again from some thoughts I gather from various sources. Please read Luke 7:1-17

In Lk. 17:1-10, the Centurion was doing well and helped finance the building of a synagogue. He had a servant that he cared about. However, the servant he cared about, was not a family member. That was much different for the woman in vv. 11-17.

She was a widow. In Jesus' day, widows often suffered greatly. They had no government assistance. And if their husbands were gone, they would look to their children to help them survive. As long as she had her son, she had hope for help. But he also died. And when he died, so did much of the hope she had left.

Imagine her thoughts and feelings as they were on their way to the cemetery. It must have been overwhelming to her.

Out of nowhere, as they were going out of the city, Jesus was coming in. What a beautiful statement we read when Luke writes, "When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, 'Do not weep'". He felt sorry for her and told her not to cry. How great is that? Jesus cared about her situation.

Make sure you get this. Jesus was on His way to the Centurion's house because the Centurion had asked Him to go. But this woman hadn't asked Him to come. She didn't think He'd be there.

Jesus healed the Centurion's servant because the Centurion had great faith. But there is no record at all of the woman's faith. What happens to the woman doesn't happen because He was asked to do it. He doesn't work a miracle because of great faith. What happens here because Jesus is Lord and because He felt sorry for her. Here is the Lord of the universe doing something, not because He was asked to do it or was expected to do it, but because He cares. That's the kind of God He is.

Ever have that happen to you? Have you ever had God just do something significant and gracious for you, not because you asked Him, but just out of kindness, unexpected kindness?

We might sometimes think if I don't ask for something or because I struggle with faith, God won't act. That's not true. Of course, God wants us to ask. Deliberately avoiding that is not a good idea. Of course, God wants us to believe. A lack of faith makes it impossible to please God.

But there are many times God acts for us simply because He is good. No wonder Hebrews 4:15 says, "...we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin". Our Lord is a

sympathetic, compassionate Lord.

When everyone and everything fails us, Jesus will still be there. This woman's life was in shambles, but Jesus was there. Like this woman, when are eyes are filled with tears, His are filled with compassion.

I love that Jesus just stopped the coffin, simply spoke to her son, and He presented him to his mother. All that pain was erased and replaced by pure joy.

That will happen to us one day, too. For all of us, even when the pain seems long, will seem but a moment against the backdrop of eternity. When we once again see our friends, our parents, our children, and so on, all of this will be erased. Against eternity, it will feel like nothing. Paul writes, "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory" (2 Cor. 4:17).

As the hymnwriter penned, "It will be worth it all, when we see Jesus". Until then, never forget that the Savior you have trusted is sympathetic. We can cast all of our care upon Him, because He cares for us.

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