

Sermon Notes

Insights from Luke

#28 – “The Number Twelve and Two Miracles of Christ”

– Luke 8:40-56

I. Introduction

A. Death and dying

1. Remember a 2004 series of messages on death and dying.
 - a. False images of heaven
 - b. Why we fear death

B. Today’s text – Luke 8:41-56

1. Luke brings two miracles together.
2. Both concern disease (how we die) and death (the moment we die).
3. Jesus has power over both.

II. Exposition

A. Luke 8:40-42

1. Jesus returns from Gadara.
2. Jairus, a synagogue official, has an ill twelve year old daughter.
 - a. “And behold” or “see,” vs. 41 – This was a strange sight.
 - b. He may have seen or heard about the young man who was raised from the dead at Nain.
 1. About twenty miles away.

B. Luke 8:43-44

1. Another story woven into the first, but now a twelve year illness.
2. Probably a uterine hemorrhage of some sort.
3. “Could not be healed.” Note Mark 5:26
 - a. Ancient useless treatments.
 - b. Spent life’s savings – some manuscript evidence.
4. “Touched” – Greek is stronger – Grabbed or clutched.
 - a. See John 20:17

C. Luke 8:45-46

1. Jesus wonders at who was healed.
2. Peter offers a practical assessment.

D. Luke 8:47-48

1. The woman did not want to be recognized.
 - a. Note Luke’s emphasis on the 1st century outsiders. The woman was part of this social group.
2. “Daughter” – Only time in the gospels where Jesus uses this address of a woman.
3. “Made you well” – Greek is SOZO which also translates in the New Testament as “Saved” or “Salvation”
 - a. Luke 7:50; Luke 17:19

E. Luke 8:49

1. Now the young girl is dead.
 - a. A fateful delay and now the young daughter is no more.
2. “Teacher” – Correct designation. He is not simply a healer. The healing confirms his teaching.

F. Luke 8:50

1. Have faith, not fear.
2. Providence is at work.

G. Luke 8:51-53

1. Mourners already present and laughed.
 - a. Jesus put them out – Mark 5:40

H. Luke 8:54-56

1. Mark’s version includes actual spoken Aramaic – Mark 5:41
2. The one with all power now speaks life into a dead corpse.
 - a. John 1:1-3; Colossians 1:15-16
3. Not a “progressive” healing as some believe possible today because of faith.
4. Compassion present – “feed her.”
5. The secret miracle – More about this later.

III. Points for Reflection

- A. True conversion means public testimony.
- B. We have become members of Christ’s family.
- C. Restriction to be silent has great meaning.
- D. We all await a promised resurrection.
- E. Faith is the antithesis of fear.