

“WHO TOUCHED MY CLOTHES?”

By Keith Greer

“And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, ‘Who touched My clothes?’” {Mark 5:30} Multitudes of people were pressuring Jesus. Word of His ability to heal the sick had spread far and wide; the people wanted to be healed of their physical infirmities. Suddenly, someone touched his garment. Who was it? This was a touch of..

Need. *“Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment.” {Mark 5:25-27}* This woman had heard about the Lord. She had spent her entire life’s savings; and she was not any better; rather, she was worse! Could we say that this woman was in desperate straits? What would we do under similar circumstances? The Lord’s fame had spread abroad, and look at the multitudes following after Him. Surely this could be the answer to her problem. She was eager to try!

Purpose. *“For she said, ‘If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.’” {Mark 5:28}* This woman had a plan. *“When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord.” {Acts 11:23}* This woman wanted to be healed, and she knew just the man who could help her. Just touching His garment would be sufficient – her only purpose was to get to Him!

Faith. *“But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. And He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.’” {Mark 5:33,34}* What faith this woman’s actions showed! Faith is not just mental assent; it involves doing something! This sick woman demonstrated her faith by seeking out the only One who could bring her relief. Christ blessed her for her determination and granted her request.

Obedience. *“And He looked around to see her who had done this thing.” {Mark 5:32}* This is an example of true Bible faith. *“You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only.” {James 2:24}* Bible faith is a mixture of belief and obedient action. All her faith in the Lord’s power could not have healed this woman had she not acted on that faith! Faith that does not have works of obedience behind it is vain and useless!

Reverence and reward. *“But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth.” {Mark 5:33}* This woman stepped up and showed her reverence and appreciation for what she had received from the Lord. God healed her because her action had clearly spoken volumes about her faith in Him. What can we learn from this woman’s actions long ago? Surely we can see that faith has no power unless it’s mixed with obedience. *“Though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. And*

having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him. {Hebrews 5:8,9} Faith must be active and willing to act according to God's commands and within His authority.

Dear reader, have you reached out and "**touched His garment?**" He is not offering you physical healing; rather, He offers spiritual healing for your sin-stained soul. Faith in Him must be mixed with obedience to His terms. He offers healing to all who desire it! Sadly, many will never benefit from the love He demonstrated on that cross. Why? Lack of true faith in Him! ***