

Slide content for Mark 5:21-43 “More Than We Ask or Think” 7/3/22

Outline:

- 1) The “St. Jude chapter”

- 2) More than she bargained for

William Lane, “It was *the grasp of her faith* rather than her hand that had secured the healing she sought. Her touch had brought together two elements – faith and Jesus – and that had made it effective.” (*The Gospel of Mark*, NICNT, 193)

- 3) More than he bargained for

Tim Keller, “The answer is in what Jesus does next. ... He sits down, takes her hand, and says, ‘Honey, it's time to get up.’ And she does. Jesus is facing death, the most implacable, inexorable enemy of the human race and such is his power that he holds this child by the hand and gently lifts her right up through it. ‘Honey, get up.’ Jesus is saying by his actions, ‘If I have you by the hand, death itself is nothing but sleep.’” (*King’s Cross*, 68)

Rom. 8:35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ... ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, ...nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ ...nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psa. 73:23 Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand.

²⁴ You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory.

²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

- 4) Kingdom signposts

Rev. 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

5) More than we ask or think

Tim Keller, “God's sense of timing will confound ours, no matter what culture we're from. His grace rarely operates according to our schedule. When Jesus looks at Jairus and says ‘Trust me, be patient’, in effect he is looking over Jairus’s head at all of us and saying, ‘Remember how when I calmed the storm I showed you that my grace and love are compatible with going through storms, though you may not think so? Well, now I'm telling you that my grace in love are compatible with what seem to you to be unconscionable delays.’ It's not ‘I will not be hurried even though I love you’; it's ‘I will not be hurried *because* I love you.’ I know what I'm doing. And **if you try to impose your understanding of schedule and timing on me, you will struggle to feel loved by me.**”

...

“If I could sit down with you and listen to the story of your life, it may well be that I would join you in saying, ‘I can't understand why God isn't coming through. I don't know why he is delaying.’ Believe me, I know how you feel, so I want to be sensitive in the way I put this. But when I look at the delays of God in my own life, I realize that a great deal of my consternation has been rooted in arrogance. I complained to Jesus, OK, you're the eternal son of God, you've lived for all eternity, you created the universe. But why would you know any better than I do how my life should be going?” (*King's Cross*, 63, 67)

Ephesians 3:20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.