<u>SERIES</u>: LUKE: THE SON OF MAN, THE SAVIOR HAS COME, WEEK 64

TITLE: JESUS' POWER OVER DEATH

TEXT: LUKE 8:49-56

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>: (1) AS A YOUNG MAN, D. L. MOODY WAS CALLED UPON SUDDENLY TO PREACH A FUNERAL SERMON.

* IN PREPARATION FOR IT, HE DECIDED THAT HE WOULD HUNT THE GOSPELS TO TRY TO FIND **ONE OF CHRIST'S FUNERAL SERMONS.**

** BUT IN THE PROCESS GUESS WHAT HAPPENED? HE COULDN'T FIND ONE!

*** HE FOUND OUT THAT EVERY TIME CHRIST ATTENDED A FUNERAL, HE BROKE IT UP BY RAISING THE PERSON FROM THE DEAD.

**** AND AS FAR AS WE KNOW, CHRIST NEVER GAVE A FUNERAL SERMON.

(2) THE REASON BEING, ULTIMATELY HE IS THE DEATH CONQUEROR. PAUL SAID INI CORINTHIANS 15:20-22 (QUOTE THEM)

* IN JOHN 11:25&26 JESUS SAID TO MARTHA THE SISTER OF LAZARUS WHO HAD BEEN DEAD 4 DAYS, (QUOTE IT).

** AND THAT TEXT LEADS US TO THE CONCLUSION THAT CHRISTIANS DON'T DIE, THEY GRADUATE, FOR TO DIE IS GAIN FOR THE TRUE BELIEVER, PHILIPPIANS 1:21.

*** YET THERE IS COMING A DAY WHEN THERE WILL BE NO MORE DEATH, REVELATION 21:4 SAYS THAT AT A FUTURE TIME: (QUOTE IT). **** NOW WITHOUT STRETCHING THE TRUTH OR EXAGGERATION, DEATH IS A DEFEATED FOE AND CHRIST IS TRULY THE DEATH CONQUEROR, ONE WHO RAISED PEOPLE FROM THE DEAD IN HIS LIFE, ONE WHO WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD HIMSELF, AND ONE WHO WILL RAISE EVERY **BELIEVER'S MORTAL BODY FROM THE GRAVE** ONE DAY.

***** AND IN OUR TEXT TODAY JESUS RAISED A TWELVE YEAR OLD GIRL FROM THE DEAD BY HIS GREAT POWER.

- AND IN LUKE 8:40-56 WE SEE A MIRACLE THAT WAS ACTUALLY A DOUBLE MIRACLE, A MIRACLE WITHIN A MIRACLE.

(3) FOR JESUS RAISED A YOUNG GIRL FROM THE DEAD, BUT BEFORE THIS IN OUR STUDY LAST WEEK, JESUS RESTORED HEALTH TO A WOMAN WHO WAS CONSIDERED BY SOCIETY ALL BUT DEAD, ONE WHOM WAS CEREMONIALLY UNCLEAN AND NOT ALLOWED TO INTERACT WITH PEOPLE, BEING TREATED LIKE A LEPER.

* AND THUS THE DOUBLE MIRACLE WAS JESUS DEMONSTRATING HIS POWER TO RESTORE WHOLENESS TO ANY PART OF THE BODY, WITH THE WOMAN WHO HAD BEEN SEVERELY SICK FOR 12 YEARS. AND JESUS DEMONSTRATED HIS POWER TO RESTORE LIFE TO THE WHOLE BODY, WHICH IS OUR FOCUS OF OUR STUDY FOR TODAY.

** AND BECAUSE OF THAT I'VE TITLED OUR MESSAGE TODAY, "JESUS' POWER OVER DEATH".

*** AND SO FAR IN LUKE CHAPTER 8 WE'VE SEEN JESUS' POWER OVER DISEASE, OVER DEMONS, OVER DEPRAVITY, OVER DISASTER AND NOW WE SEE JESUS' POWER OVER DEATH.

**** A PRESENTATION OF C**HRIST'S CREDENTIALS** BY LUKE THAT HE IS LORD, THE TRUE MESSIAH, THE SAVIOR, THE SON OF MAN.

(4) AND UNDER THE THEME OF JESUS' POWER OVER DEATH, WE'LL LOOK AT 5 THINGS THIS MORNING.

* NO. 1 THE CRISIS FOR JAIRUS, V. 49; NO. 2 THE CHALLENGE FROM JESUS TO JAIRUS, VV. 50&51; NO. 3 THE COMMAND BY JESUS, VV. 52&53; NO. 4 THE COMPASSION OF JESUS, VV. 54&55; AND NO. 5 THE CHARGE FROM JESUS TO THE PARENTS OF THE 12 YEAR OLD WHO IS RAISED FROM THE DEAD, V. 56.

** AND WITH THOSE 5 POINTS AS OUR MAP, LOOK AT V. 49 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR FIRST POINT TODAY, THE CRISIS.

I. THE CRISIS, (READ V. 49)

A. NOW WHILE JESUS IS STILL SPEAKING TO THE WOMAN WHOM HE HAD JUST HEALED, GOING BACK TO V. 48, SOMEONE CAME FROM THE HOUSE OF THE CHIEF OFFICIAL OF THE SYNAGOGUE AND DELIVERS THIS BLUNT CRUSHING NEWS, TO HIM, "YOUR DAUGHTER HAS DIED."

* WELL, THIS IS WHAT THE SYNAGOGUE LEADER HAD FEARED THE MOST. HIS WORST NIGHTMARE HAD BECOME A REALITY, THE WORST WORDS ANY PARENT COULD EVER HEAR, YOUR DAUGHTER, YOUR SON IS DEAD.

** NOW ALL HOPE WAS GONE. THIS OFFICIAL MAY HAVE DROPPED TO HIS KNEES. EMOTIONS HAD TO HAVE TAKEN OVER, THERE MAY HAVE EVEN BEEN ANGER. WHY DID JESUS STOP TO TALK TO THIS WOMAN? HE COULD HAVE TALKED TO HER LATER, MY DAUGHTER IS DEAD!

*** BUT NOT ONLY DOES THIS MESSENGER GIVE JAIRUS BAD NEWS VERY DIRECTLY, HE THEN SAYS, "DO NOT TROUBLE THE TEACHER ANYMORE." DON'T BOTHER JESUS ANYMORE.

**** IT IS TO SAY, ALL HOPE WAS GONE. WHILE THE GIRL WAS ALIVE THERE WAS HOPE OF HER **GETTING BETTER, BUT NOW IT'S TOO LATE,** JESUS HAD WAITED TOO LONG!

1. AND IT'S NOT EVEN ON THIS MESSENGER'S RADAR THAT JESUS COULD DO ANYTHING FOR **JAIRUS' DAUGHTER NOW THAT SHE WAS DEAD.**

* AND MOST LIKELY THE MESSENGER HAD NOT HEARD HOW JESUS RAISED THE WIDOW'S SON FROM THE DEAD IN NAIN.

** SO HIS RESPONSE, "LET THE TEACHER GO,"

THE TITLE TEACHER BEING A TITLE OF GREAT RESPECT. LET THE TEACHER GO, HE HAS OTHER THINGS TO DO. AND SO THE CRISIS FOR JAIRUS AND HIS WIFE BEGINS HERE IN V. 49.

*** WHICH LEADS TO A CHALLENGE FROM JESUS TO JAIRUS IN VERSE 50, OUR SECOND POINT TODAY. LOOK AT. V. 50 PLEASE.

II. THE CHALLENGE, (READ V. 50)

A. NOW THE CHALLENGE FROM JESUS TO JAIRUS IS "DO NOT BE AFRAID ANY LONGER."

* JAIRUS DON'T FEAR, DON'T BE AFRAID, FEAR NOT.

** AND OBVIOUSLY JAIRUS IS AFRAID, OR JESUS WOULD NOT HAVE SAID, DON'T BE AFRAID.

*** AND I CAN ONLY SPECULATE WHAT THE FEAR WOULD BE, BUT MAYBE, FEAR OF WHAT **HIS DAUGHTER'S DEATH WOULD DO TO HIS** WIFE, FEAR OF WHAT IT WOULD DO TO THEIR MARRIAGE, FEAR OF THE VOID THAT WOULD BE MADE IN THEIR LIVES EVERYDAY, FEAR OF COPING, AND EVEN FEAR THAT THEY COULD GO ON.

**** BUT WHATEVER THE FEAR WAS, JESUS GIVES THE ANTIDOTE FOR FEAR. AND YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS?

1. BELIEVE, TRUST, RELY ON ME, DEPEND ON ME, AND SHE WILL BE MADE WELL, HAVE FAITH IN ME, JAIRUS.

* AND IN ESSENCE, JAIRUS HAD ENOUGH FAITH TO BELIEVE THAT JESUS COULD HEAL HIS DAUGHTER WHEN SHE WAS ALIVE ACCORDING **TO MARK'S ACCOUNT OF THIS** STORY IN MARK 5:23.

** FOR JAIRUS SAID, "MY LITTLE DAUGHTER IS AT THE POINT OF DEATH; PLEASE COME AND LAY YOUR HANDS ON HER, <u>SO THAT</u> SHE WILL GET WELL AND BELIEVE."

** AND NOW JAIRUS NEEDED TO BELIEVE THAT JESUS HAD THE POWER TO BRING LIFE BACK TO HER DEAD BODY.

*** AND BELOVED, IT'S NOT EASY TO DRIVE OUT FEAR. AND THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO DO IT, NAMELY, BY FIRMLY BELIEVING IN THE POWER, THE PROMISES, THE PRESENCE AND PITY OF GOD IN CHRIST. **** IT IS TO BELIEVE THAT OUR GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD BECAUSE HE IS HOLY, FAITHFUL, JUST, RIGHTEOUS, IMMUTABLE, GRACIOUS AND LOVING.

2. IT IS TO GO BACK AND STAND ON THE TRUTHS OF HIS CHARACTER AND BEING AND WHO HE IS, AND REST AND TRUST IN HIM, AND NOT ONLY WHEN IT HURTS, BUT ESPECIALLY WHEN IT HURTS.

* AND NO DOUBT JAIRUS WAS CRUSHED, ALL OF US WOULD BE IF WE WERE IN HIS SANDALS, AND SOME OF YOU HAVE BEEN IN THAT POSITION. BUT TRUST AND BELIEVE, TRUST AND OBEY, BRINGS PEACE IN THE GREAT STORMS AND TRIALS OF LIFE.

** SO JESUS TOLD JAIRUS TO HAVE FAITH, WHICH IS THE VERY ANTITHESIS OF FEAR. FAITH AND FEAR ALWAYS STAND IN OPPOSITION. *** AND BELOVED THIS MEANS WE HAVE A CHOICE TO MAKE, EITHER WE CAN BE PARALYZED BY FEAR OF ALL THE THINGS THAT MIGHT GO WRONG AND HAVE GONE WRONG, OR WE CAN TRUST JESUS TO SEE US THROUGH.

- AND WE FACE THIS CHOICE THROUGHOUT OUR LIVES. AM I AFRAID OF WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN TO OUR CHILDREN, OR GRANDCHILDREN, OR PARENTS, ALWAYS FRETTING ABOUT THEIR PHYSICAL OR SPIRITUAL SAFETY, OR DO I ENTRUST THEM TO GOD'S FATHERLY CARE?

- AM I AFRAID OF LOSING EVERYTHING WE OWN, OR DO I TRUST THE LORD TO PROVIDE FOR WHAT I TRULY NEED?

- AM I AFRAID ABOUT GETTING OLD AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN, OR DO I TRUST THE ONE WHO HAS ORDAINED MY DAYS DOWN TO THE VERY SECOND HE HAD APPOINTED ME TO DIE?

- QUOTE PSALM 62:8, PSALM 37:5, PSALM 55:22, I PETER 5:7 AND PHILIPPIANS 4:6&7. - ISAIAH 26:4 - TRUST IN THE LORD FOREVER, FOR IN GOD THE LORD, WE HAVE AN EVERLASTING ROCK.

- AND BROTHERS AND SISTERS CHOOSE TODAY, WHICH ONE WILL IT BE, FAITH OR FEAR? FAITH BRINGS THE VICTORY THROUGH THE ONE WHO CONTROLS ALL THINGS.

**** AND JESUS WILL START TO TAKE OVER HERE, TO TAKE CONTROL AT THE HOUSE OF JAIRUS AND WILL START DIRECTING THINGS FOR SOMETHING SPECTACULAR TO HAPPEN IN THE END, BUT THE DIRECTION STARTS IN V. 51, LOOK AT V. 51 PLEASE.

B. <u>READ VERSE 51</u>. NOW AS JESUS ARRIVES AT THE HOUSE OF JAIRUS, WHICH WAS PROBABLY A GOOD SIZED HOME, FOR JAIRUS WAS THE RULER OF THE SYNAGOGUE, A POSITION OF INFLUENCE AND POWER.

* BUT AS JESUS ARRIVES, HE LITERALLY TAKES **OVER AND DOESN'T ALLOW T**HE CROWDS THAT ARE FOLLOWING HIM TO GO IN, NOR HIS DISCIPLES, NOR 9 OF THE 12 APOSTLES, ONLY MOM AND DAD AND PETER, JAMES AND JOHN, THE INNER CIRCLE OF JESUS.

** IT WAS A TRAINING TIME FOR PETER, JAMES AND JOHN TO SEE WHAT IS ABOUT TO HAPPEN AND OF COURSE MOM AND DAD, THIS IS THEIR HOME AND THEIR CHILD.

*** BUT KEEP IN MIND, THERE ARE ALREADY PEOPLE IN THE HOUSE, MOURNERS AND NEIGHBORS, LET ME EXPLAIN, LOOK AT V. 52 **PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE OUR THIRD** POINT TODAY, THE COMMAND. III. THE COMMAND, (READ V. 52)

A. NOW ACCORDING TO THE PARALLEL COMPANION TEXT IN MATTHEW 9:23&24 IT SAYS: "WHEN JESUS CAME INTO THE OFFICIAL'S HOUSE (JAIRUS' HOUSE) AND SAW THE FLUTE PLAYERS AND THE CROWD IN NOISY DISORDER, HE SAID, LEAVE; FOR THE GIRL HAS NOT DIED, BUT IS ASLEEP. AND THEY BEGAN LAUGHING AT HIM."

* NOW WE ARE NOT TOLD HOW LONG THE GIRL HAD BEEN DEAD, BUT IT WAS OBVIOUSLY LONG ENOUGH TO HAVE SUMMONED THE PROFESSIONAL FLUTE-PLAYERS AND THE CROWD OF MOURNERS.

** AND UNDERSTAND THAT PROFESSIONAL MOURNERS AND MUSICIANS WERE TYPICAL FEATURES IN A HOUSE WHERE DEATH OCCURRED IN THAT DAY IN JEWISH CULTURE.

*** IN FACT ALFRED EDERSHEIM POINTS OUT THAT THE TALMUD REQUIRED AS A DUTY FOR **EVEN "THE POOREST JEW, ON THE DEATH OF HIS** WIFE TO PROVIDE AT LEAST TWO FLUTES AND **ONE MOURNING WOMAN."**

**** SO A LACK OF WEEPING AND WAILING WAS THE ULTIMATE DISGRACE AND DISRESPECT. SO SOME PEOPLE, USUALLY WOMEN, MADE MOURNING A PROFESSION AND WERE PAID BY **THE DEAD PERSON'S FAMILY TO WEEP OVER** THE BODY.

1. SO THE SCENE WAS CHAOTIC AND FILLED WITH BOTH GENUINE AND "PROFESSIONAL GRIEF".

* NOW JESUS COMES INTO THE HOME AND ASKS THE MOURNERS TO LEAVE, IT PROBABLY WAS PATHETIC, THE WAILING AND SCREAMS, THE NOISY DISORDER.

** BUT ALSO WE GO BACK TO LUKE 8:52, JESUS TELLS THEM TO STOP WEEPING. *** AND ACCORDING TO MARK 5:38, JESUS "SAW A COMMOTION AND PEOPLE LOUDLY WEEPING AND WAILING."

**** AND WHAT JESUS DOES IS, HE ABRUPTLY ENDS THE FUNERAL BY COMMANDING THE HIRED MOURNERS TO STOP WEEPING FOR SHE IS NOT DEAD, BUT IS ASLEEP.

2. NOW WHAT IS THEIR RESPONSE TO JESUS' COMMAND? WELL, VERSE 53 GIVES US THE ANSWER. LOOK AT V. 53 PLEASE.

B. <u>READ V. 53</u>. NOW TO SHOW YOU HOW PROFESSIONAL THESE MOURNERS WERE AS ACTORS, THEY GO FROM WAILING TO LAUGHING IN ONE BREATH, IN ONE INSTANT!

** AND THEY MOCK JESUS, SURE SHE'S ASLEEP, HA HA HA HA HA. THIS IS A LAUGH OF SCORN AND DERISION. IT WAS A MOCKING LAUGH. *** AND NO DOUBT WHAT JESUS MEANT WAS THEY COULD NOT TREAT HER DEATH AS PERMANENT, FOR IT WAS TEMPORARY AND SHE WOULD AWAKE FROM THE DEAD JUST LIKE WE AWAKE FROM SLEEP.

**** SHE WAS DEFINITELY DEAD, BUT JESUS WOULD BRING HER BACK TO LIFE AS IF AWAKENING HER FROM SLEEP. HER CONDITION WAS TEMPORARY. DEATH WOULD NOT HAVE THE FINAL WORD, SHE WOULD RISE FROM IT LIKE A PERSON WOULD FROM THEIR SLEEP.

1. AND SOME COMMENTATORS SUGGEST THAT THIS GIRL WAS IN A COMA AND NOT REALLY DEAD, BUT SHE WAS TRULY DEAD FOR LUKE 8:55 SAYS HER SPIRIT RETURNED WHICH COMMUNICATES THAT SHE WAS DEAD, WHEN THE SPIRIT LEAVES THE BODY IT IS DEAD, JAMES 2:26 (QUOTE IT).

* SO SHE WAS DEAD. AND THE PEOPLE KNEW IT, LUKE 8:53 – **"KNOWING THAT SHE HAD DIED,"** AND JESUS KNEW IT, BUT HE KNEW IT WOULD NOT BE PERMANENT, FOR LOOK AT WHAT JESUS DID IN VERSE 54 WHICH LEADS US TO OUR 4^{TH} POINT TODAY, THE COMPASSION. LOOK AT V. 54 PLEASE.

IV. THE COMPASSION, (READ V. 54)

A. NOW I USE THE WORD COMPASSION HERE, FOR JESUS TAKES THIS 12 YEAR OLD GIRL BY THE HAND, AND YOU MAY THINK THAT'S NOT THAT BIG OF A DEAL, THAT'S NICE.

* HOWEVER, BY TAKING THIS GIRL BY THE HAND, JESUS ACCORDING TO CEREMONIAL LAW WOULD HAVE RENDERED HIMSELF CEREMONIALLY UNCLEAN, FOR JEWS WERE NOT ALLOWED TO TOUCH DEAD BODIES. ** BUT COMPASSION TRUMPS TRADITION AND CEREMONY AND JESUS TAKES HER BY THE HAND, AND GIVES THE COMMAND, "CHILD ARISE."

*** AND WITH THE MIGHTY POWER OF JESUS THAT HE USED TO CREATE EVERYTHING INCLUDING LIFE, JESUS COMMANDS LIFE INTO HER.

**** AND IT'S A GOOD THING THAT JESUS SAID SPECIFICALLY "CHILD" ARISE, HE HAD TO BE SPECIFIC OR EVERY DEAD PERSON IN HISTORY WOUL**D HAVE COME BACK TO LIFE, THAT'S THE** POWER OF THE CREATOR. HE SPEAKS AND IT IS DONE, HE COMMANDS AND IT COMES TO PASS, WHICH REMINDS ME OF PSALM 33:8&9 (QUOTE THEM).

1. WELL, GOING BACK TO LUKE 8:54, JESUS COMMANDS FOR HIS CHILD TO ARISE. AND WHAT HAPPENS? WELL, LOOK AT V. 55 PLEASE. B. <u>READ V. 55</u>. NOW WE KNOW THAT THIS LITTLE GIRL WAS DEAD FOR IT SAYS, "HER SPIRIT RETURNED." AND PHYSICAL DEATH TAKES PLACE WHEN THE BODY DIES AND THE SPIRIT LEAVES.

* SO LIFE COMES BACK INTO THIS GIRL'S BODY THROUGH THE COMMAND OF JESUS. AND TO SHOW LIFE HAS RETURNED COMPLETELY, THERE IS NO REHAB OR PERIOD OF TIME FOR HER BODY TO START WORKING, FOR <u>IMMEDIATELY</u> SHE GETS UP!

** AND TO GIVE MORE EVIDENCE OF THIS INCREDIBLE MIRACLE OF LIFE BEING RESTORED, JESUS GIVES ORDERS TO FEED HER.

*** I MEAN WHEN A PERSON IS DYING, NO FOOD, OR WHEN YOU'RE REALLY SICK, NORMALLY YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE EATING, BUT WHEN FULL HEALTH AND LIFE IS RESTORED, THE BODY NEEDS SUSTENANCE, FOOD – FUEL TO FUNCTION.

**** BUT I EVEN AGAIN SEE THE COMPASSION OF JESUS. HE IS CONCERNED THAT THE GIRL EATS. HE WANTS THIS NEED MET. FOR A JOY OF LIFE **IS TO BE ABLE TO EAT AND ENJOY GOD'S GREAT** PROVISION OF FOOD.

1. AND JESUS AGAIN HERE IS COMPASSIONATE, WHICH LEADS US TO THE PARENTS RESPONSE AND A CHARGE FROM JESUS TO THE PARENTS, **LOOK AT V. 56 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL SEE OUR** FINAL POINT TODAY, THE CHARGE.

V. THE CHARGE, (READ V. 56)

A. NOW THE RESPONSE OF THE PARENTS AS THEY SEE THIS MIGHTY MIRACLE OF JESUS RAISING THEIR DAUGHTER FROM THE DEAD IS THEY ARE "AMAZED.

* AND THIS VERB LITERALLY MEANS TO BE ASTONISHED, ASTOUNDED, TO BE BESIDE ONES SELF, TO BE THROWN INTO WONDERMENT. OBVIOUSLY THIS IS A WOW MOMENT! THEY WERE KNOCKED OUT OF THEIR SENSES. ** AND WE CAN ONLY IMAGINE THEIR JOY, FROM DEEP GRIEF TO GREAT GLADNESS.

*** BUT JESUS GIVES A FINAL WORD OF INSTRUCTION, A CHARGE, AND IT MAY APPEAR RATHER ODD TO US.

**** FOR HE SAYS TO THE PARENTS, "TELL NO ONE WHAT HAPPENED."

1. AND OUR INITIAL RESPONSE IS WHY? I **MEAN SHOULDN'T EVERYONE KNOW ABOUT T**HE POWER OF JESUS AT THAT TIME?

* WELL, PEOPLE WOULD KNOW ABOUT THE MIRACLE. I MEAN AS SOON AS THIS 12 YEAR OLD GIRL WALKED OUT OF THE HOUSE, THE MULTITUDES OUTSIDE WOULD KNOW, AND THE WORD WOULD GET AROUND. I MEAN THE NEWS WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP SECRET.

** SO WHY THIS CHARGE TO THE PARENTS?

*** WELL, THERE WERE TIMES WHEN JESUS DID NOT WANT THE NEWS OF A MIRACLE TO SPREAD BECAUSE THE RESULTING CROWDS OF CURIOSITY SEEKERS WOULD HINDER, HURT HIS MINISTRY LIKE IN MARK 1:40-45.

**** ALSO THERE WAS A CONCERN THEY WOULD TRY TO MAKE JESUS A KING BY FORCE IN JOHN 6:14&15.

 ALSO JESUS WANTED TO FOCUS ON HIS MESSAGE, NOT JUST MIRACLES.

* HE DID NOT JUST WANT TO BE KNOWN AS A MIRACLE WORKER OR HEALER BUT AS THE SAVIOR THAT WOULD COME TO SEEK AND SAVE THE LOST.

** JESUS' MISSION WAS TO PREACH THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM, WHICH MEANS HE WOULD DIE AND RISE AGAIN. HE WOULD DIE IN HIS OWN APPOINTED TIME AND NOT BEFORE. *** AND SO PUBLICITY WAS NOT NEEDED AT THIS TIME IN GALILEE, ALREADY MULTITUDES WERE COMING OUT TO SEE HIS MIRACLES. JESUS WAS NOT LOOKING FOR A LOT OF IMMEDIATE PUBLICITY AT THIS TIME.

**** MIRACLES WERE NOT THE CENTER OF HIS MINISTRY, THE MESSAGE WAS AND ALREADY A MASS OF PEOPLE WERE ALREADY FOLLOWING HIM AROUND IN THE WRONG REASONS. JESUS WANTS THE ATTENTION ELSEWHERE AT THIS TIME.

WITH THAT SAID, THREE APPLICATIONS TODAY FROM THIS TEXT. NO. 1 GOD'S TIMING OF EVENTS JUMPS OUT FROM OUR TEXTS THE LAST TWO WEEKS. * FOR CERTAINLY AS JAIRUS HEARD OF HIS **DAUGHTER'S DEATH, AFTER JESUS D**EALT WITH MORE OF A MINOR PROBLEM THAT WAS NOT AS MUCH AS AN EMERGENCY AS HIS DAUGHTER, HE COULD HAVE HEALED THE WOMAN LATER, HE MUST HAVE HAD A HIGH LEVEL OF FRUSTRATION.

** HE MUST HAVE WONDERED ABOUT THE TIMING OF ALL THIS INITIALLY.

*** AND WE OFTEN STRUGGLE TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S TIMING. IN FACT, MUCH OF FAITH IS RELATED TO ACCEPTING GOD'S TIMING FOR EVENTS.

**** I MEAN IT IS OFTEN THE CASE THAT WHAT WE THINK GOD SHOULD DO RIGHT NOW, GOD CHOOSES TO ACT ON LATER. (2) AND THERE ARE TIMES WHEN SOME OF US WISH THAT WE HAD A SEAT IN THE COUNCIL OF HEAVEN TO MAKE OUR CASE FOR THE SUPERIORITY OF THE TIMING OF EVENTS THAT WE WANT.

* HOWEVER IN RETROSPECT, WHAT WE WANTED AND WHEN WE WANTED IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN GOOD FOR US, AND WHAT OUR LORD BROUGHT TO PASS LATER WAS BETTER FOR US.

** AND ULTIMATELY TRUSTING IN GOD'S CARE MEANS ACCEPTING HIS TIMING OF EVENTS. FAITH MUST BE PATIENT.

*** AND YES IN ONE SENSE, FAITH IS FULL SPEED AHEAD, WHILE IN ANOTHER IT IS WAITING ON THE LORD, FOR OUR FATHER KNOWS BEST.

**** NO. 2 WHAT HAPPENED TO JAIRUS' DAUGHTER IS A PICTURE OF WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO EVERY TRUE BELIEVER IN JESUS CHRIST.

(3) FOR DEATH IS NOT THE END FOR US.

* FOR AS SOON AS WE DIE, OUR SPIRITS IMMEDIATELY ENTER THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST, II CORINTHIANS 5:8, PHILIPPIANS 1:21-23.

** BUT IN BETWEEN THE TIME OF OUR DEATH AND THE COMING OF CHRIST IN THE AIR, OUR BODIES GO BACK TO THE GROUND WAITING FOR OUR FINAL RESURRECTION.

*** AND THAT RESURRECTION IS SO ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT THE BIBLE SOMETIMES DESCRIBES THE DEATH OF THE BODY AS A KIND OF SLEEP, QUOTE I THESSALONIANS 4:13&14 AND I CORINTHIANS 15:51&52.

**** SO THERE IS NO SOUL OR SPIRIT SLEEP BUT OUR BODIES WILL SLEEP UNTIL THEY ARE RAISED AGAIN SO DEATH IS NOT THE END FOR BELIEVERS IN CHRIST.

(4) FOR IN THE SAME WAY THAT JESUS WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD ON THE THIRD DAY, WE TOO WILL BE RAISED. OUR BODIES WILL SLEEP IN DEATH, BUT THEY WILL RISE AGAIN.

* AND WE WILL HAVE A NEW BODY JUST LIKE CHRIST'S. SO THE BEST IS YET TO COME. BE ENCOURAGED TODAY, YOU THAT HAVE BODIES THAT ARE NOT WORKING RIGHT, A GREAT DAY IS COMING. LIVE IN HOPE, NOT DESPAIR.

** OUR REAL HOPE IS NOT RESUSCITATION, BUT RESURRECTION!

* <u>NO. 3</u>. RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD IS A PICTURE OF THE WAY JESUS CHRIST SAVES LOST SINNERS AND RAISES THEM FROM SPIRITUAL DEATH TO LIFE. QUOTE JOHN 5:24 AND EPHESIANS 2:1-5. * COLOSSIANS 2:13 - WHEN YOU WERE DEAD IN YOUR TRANSGRESSIONS AND THE UNCIRCUMCISION OF YOUR FLESH, HE MADE YOU ALIVE TOGETHER WITH HIM, HAVING FORGIVEN US ALL OUR TRANSGRESSIONS.

** NOW UNBELIEVER, YOU CAN'T RAISE YOURSELF FROM SPIRITUAL DEADNESS, BUT IF YOU SEE YOUR SIN, YOUR REBELLION THAT BRINGS SEPARATION FROM GOD, AND SEE JESUS AS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN FORGIVE YOU AND RISE YOU SPIRITUALLY, AND IF YOU HAVE A DESIRE TO TURN TO JESUS IN REPENTANT FAITH, THEN GOD IS DOING A MIGHTY WORK OF RESURRECTION IN YOUR HEART.

*** SO CRY OUT TO JESUS FOR FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SIN AND RECEIVE HIM AS YOUR LORD AND SAVIOR TODAY. IF YOU DO THAT, IT SHOWS JESUS HAS RAISED YOU FROM BEING DEAD IN YOUR SINS. (LET'S PRAY)