

The Way of FAITH

[Part 1]

BY PASTOR CHARLES OMOFOMAH

41 And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house:

42 For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged him.

43 And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any,

44 Came behind him, and touched the border of his garment: and immediately her issue of blood stanch'd.

45 And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

46 And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me.

47 And when the woman saw that she was not hid, she came trembling, and falling down before him, she declared unto him before all the people for what cause she had touched him, and how she was healed immediately.

48 And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

Luke 8:41-48 [KJV]

In this article and the next, I want us to concentrate on the statements that Jesus made in the text before us. By looking at these statements, we will learn about faith. The Bible says that in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God and all things were created by the Word [John 1:1,3]. We know the Word to be Jesus. The book of Hebrews lets us know that it was by faith creation occurred [Hebrews 11:3]. Therefore, if anybody is competent to teach on faith, it's Jesus. I believe very strongly that we're going to learn the way of faith through the statements that Jesus made in this part of Scripture.

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45 And Jesus said, Who touched me? When all denied, Peter and they that were with him said, Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

Luke 8:43-45 [KJV]

In your imagination, picture the crowd thronging or pressing Jesus. This has been going for a while. And then, immediately Jesus stopped and said, "Who touched me?" Nobody answered. But then of course, the big-mouthed Peter who thought Jesus was losing it said, "Master, the multitude throng thee and press thee, and sayest thou, who touched me?" [Luke 8:45]. But Jesus replied, "Somebody hath touched me..." This statement of Jesus gives us an insight about how faith works. It tells us that for faith to work there must be a contact.

Real Faith Makes Contact

Faith will always make contact. I could put it this way: Real faith will always make contact. This contact is not just a physical contact. A lot of people were pressing themselves on Jesus, but this one woman came and touched Jesus by faith and she made a connection. In the natural, Jesus didn't even know that the woman had planned to touch Him. At the point when the woman touched Jesus, the will of Jesus was not even important. It was the woman all by herself, who willed to touch Him, and she touched Him and she got healed.

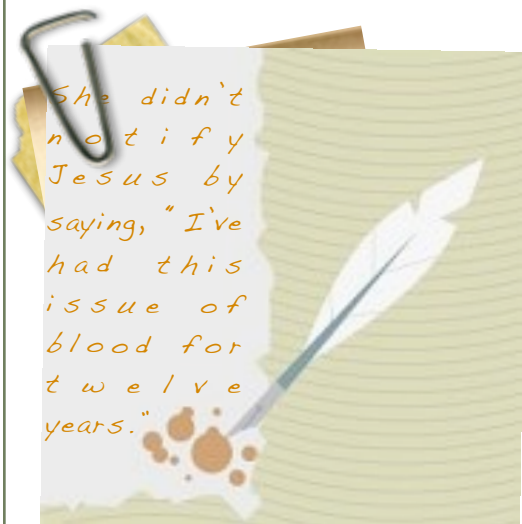
In several other places Jesus asked the people, "Will you be made whole?" [John 5:6]. In other instances, people asked Him to come and heal their children or my servants [Mark 5:23; Matthew 8:6]. And in all such places He answered "I will" [Matthew 8:3,7]. All that God will do concerning your healing, He has done it. When He gave up His Son on the Cross of Calvary, that was His way of saying, "I will."

He Healed you two thousand years ago, you only made contact with it the day you received it.

After the whole process, Jesus told the woman with the issue of blood, "Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace." In the real sense of it, apart from the times when God moves by His supernatural gifts, all that God will do to heal you, He has done it by way of Jesus being crucified on the Cross, and therefore, we shouldn't say, "God just healed me." It is your faith that just healed you. It is because of the inadequacy in human vocabulary that we say, "God healed me." Yes, it's God who healed you. But do you know when He healed you? He healed you two thousand years ago. You only made contact with it the day you received it. It was when you made contact. That was not when God healed you.

Rude Faith

Let's put it in very plain terms. The woman didn't take permission from Jesus. She didn't notify Jesus by saying, "I've had this issue of blood for twelve years." She didn't notify Him at all! One of the Gospel accounts says, the woman kept saying to herself, "If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole" [Matthew 9:21]. It was the woman's faith that touched Jesus. It was not Jesus who touched her. She didn't take permission. She was a very rude woman. And Jesus didn't say, "How rude! Why did you do this?" Jesus likes rude faith. No permission.



I want to say something that may sound very hard. If you have reached a point where you've said, "God didn't heal me," then you've given up. It's not that God didn't heal you. It's that you didn't make contact. There are some people who are still thanking God for their healing, even though it has not manifested. Those people are still on course. But if you are saying, "I've prayed and prayed, but God has not healed me," then you haven't made contact. Go and find out where you're missing it.



When He gave up His Son on the Cross of Calvary, that was His way of saying, "I will."

Faith: A Spiritual Force

Faith is a spiritual force that when it takes place it affects the material, or the physical. It's not a physical thing. Let me try and describe this to you with my popular example. Supposing you're passing through a grave yard; and before this time you've heard all kinds of stories about grave yards that made you afraid. Then as you are passing through it, you start quoting Psalm 23 saying, "The Lord is my Shepherd. I do not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures... Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil..." But you're running breathlessly. If you fear no evil, then walk through the graveyard with majesty. So, it's not just what you say that matters, it's the spirit behind what you say that matters. It's not just what you do; it's the spirit behind what you do.

The spirit behind a thing is very important. Faith is a spiritual force that affects the material or the physical world. Praise God!

Please watch out for part 2