

3-2018

The Miracles of Jesus Christ: Healing a Woman with an Issue of Blood

Harold Willmington

Liberty University, hwillmington@liberty.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/second_person



Part of the [Biblical Studies Commons](#), [Christianity Commons](#), and the [Religious Thought, Theology and Philosophy of Religion Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Willmington, Harold, "The Miracles of Jesus Christ: Healing a Woman with an Issue of Blood" (2018). *The Second Person File*. 254.

https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/second_person/254

This The Miracles of Jesus Christ is brought to you for free and open access by the Theological Studies at Scholars Crossing. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Second Person File by an authorized administrator of Scholars Crossing. For more information, please contact scholarlycommunications@liberty.edu.

THE MIRACLES OF JESUS CHRIST

MIRACLE FIFTEEN: Healing a Woman with an Issue of Blood (Mt. 9:20-22; Mk. 5:25-34; Lk. 8:43-48)

SURVEY

A woman who had suffered with internal bleeding for twelve years, being unable to be helped by her physicians, approaches Jesus in a crowd and by faith touches the hem of His garment, resulting in her immediate healing.

SIGNIFICANCE

- This is the only miracle where the person in need touched Jesus first.
- It is the only time where Jesus uses the title "daughter." On a previous occasion He had referred to a paralytic who had been healed as "son" (Mt. 9:2).

SPIRITUAL TRUTHS

- This poor woman's condition carried with it religious and social (as well as physical) consequences. According to Leviticus 15:19-30, she would have been considered unclean for twelve long years. Note also she had spent all her resources on her problem. Thus, she was pain-wracked, penniless, and prohibited from social gatherings. But then, we read, she ... *"heard of Jesus."*
- Luke describes the aftermath of this healing as follows:
"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? And Jesus said, Somebody hath touched me: for I perceive that virtue is gone out of me." (Lk. 8:45-46)
- The two statements of Jesus here point out two profound insights concerning His earthly ministry.

1. His total dependence upon the Holy Spirit:

Note His question, *"Who touched me?"* Even though Christ retained His divine attributes (His omnipresence, His omnipotence, His omniscience) upon coming to earth, He chose not to use them in an independent way, but depended upon the Holy Spirit to lead, advise, and empower Him. In other words, Jesus may not have known at that moment who touched Him. A similar example can be seen later when He was asked concerning the date of the second coming.

His answer was: *"But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father"* (Mk. 13:32). (See also Mt. 4:1; Jn. 5:19; Phil. 2:5-8.)

2. The awful demands upon His physical body:

Note His statement, *"Virtue is gone out of me."* The Greek word for virtue here is *dunamis*, and refers to power or strength. How taxing it must have been upon His body to perform His mighty miracles.

A hint of this may be seen through a statement made by some Pharisees during a confrontation with Jesus. Note:

"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am." (Jn. 8:56-58)

The point of the above is that Jesus apparently looked to be much older than He really was, being mistaken for nearly fifty (an advanced age back then) when in reality He had yet to celebrate His thirty-third birthday! Caring for the sick in the world and, at the same time, carrying the sins of the world was exhausting labor indeed!