

Who Do You Say That I Am?

Seeing and Delighting in Jesus through an Expository Journey through the **Gospel of Matthew**

95- Jesus' Authority Over Disease; Disabilities; Demons; and Death- Part 6

Church April 21, 2024

Matthew 9:18-35

18 While He was saying these things to them, a synagogue official came and bowed down before Him, and said, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay Your hand on her, and she will live."

19 Jesus got up and began to follow him, and so did His disciples.

20 And a woman who had been suffering from a hemorrhage for twelve years, came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His cloak;

21 for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch His garment, I will get well."

22 But Jesus turning and seeing her said, "Daughter, take courage; your faith has made you well." At once the woman was made well.

23 When Jesus came into the official's house, and saw the flute-players and the crowd in noisy disorder,

24 He said, "Leave; for the girl has not died, but is asleep." And they began laughing at Him.

25 But when the crowd had been sent out, He entered and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.

26 This news spread throughout all that land.

27 As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out, "Have mercy on us, Son of David!"

28 When He entered the house, the blind men came up to Him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord."

29 Then He touched their eyes, saying, "It shall be done to you according to your faith."

30 And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them: "See that no one knows about this!"

31 But they went out and spread the news about Him throughout all that land.

32 As they were going out, a mute, demon-possessed man was brought to Him.

33 After the demon was cast out, the mute man spoke; and the crowds were amazed, and were saying, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel."

34 But the Pharisees were saying, "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons."

35 Jesus was going through all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness.

*To the Glory of God the Father; God the Son;
and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

Now, last time- we saw how Jesus healed the sick Woman, who had an Issue of Blood; and who reached out to touch the border of His Garment; as He was on His Way to raise Jairus' Daughter from the dead. And Jesus called her, "Daughter"- indicating His great Love toward her. And so, today, let's examine what the Apostle Matthew wrote about Jairus and his Daughter by looking again at verses 18, 19, and 23-26 again together:

18 While He was saying these things to them, a synagogue official came and bowed down before Him, and said, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay Your hand on her, and she will live."

19 Jesus got up and began to follow him, and so did His disciples.

23 When Jesus came into the official's house, and saw the flute-players and the crowd in noisy disorder,

24 He said, "Leave; for the girl has not died, but is asleep." And they began laughing at Him.

25 But when the crowd had been sent out, He entered and took her by the hand, and the girl got up.

26 This news spread throughout all that land.

Now as we found out a few weeks ago, Matthew says here in verse 18 that this Event with a man, who was a "Synagogue Official" happened, "**While He [Jesus] was saying these things**". So, the "things" that Jesus was saying had to do with the Subject of Fasting that is found in verses 14-17. And so, while Jesus was teaching about the Distinction between New Covenant Fasting as opposed to Old Covenant Fasting- this man- this important Synagogue Official- came up to Jesus and...

... bowed down before Him, and said, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay Your hand on her, and she will live."

Now the Apostle Matthew doesn't name this man. So, in order to

get a much more complete Comprehension about this Event- we need to look at **Luke 8:41&42** that says:

41 And there came a man named Jairus, and he was an official of the synagogue; and he fell at Jesus' feet, and began to implore Him to come to his house;

42 for he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, and she was dying. But as He went, the crowds were pressing against Him.

So, from what Dr. Luke infallibly wrote here- we now know that the man Matthew refers to in his Gospel Record was named, "*Jairus*" and that his "only" Daughter was "about twelve years old" and she was dying. And when we read the *third* "Synoptic Gospel Record" written on behalf of the Apostle Paul by a man named, "John Mark", we find in **Mark 5:23** that Jairus called his Daughter,

"My LITTLE Daughter".

... so, this grieving Father went to Jesus to plead for the Life of the "Joy of his heart"- his *only* Daughter- his *little* Daughter, who was dying.

There is few worse Agonies on this earth that compares with the Agony of losing a child. What you expect when Children are birthed into the Union between you and your Wife is all the Laughter and Joy and wonderful Experiences that come from Children. But when a Child is sick and even worse, when a Child dies- that Agony is very deep and very transforming. You really never get over it. Because Death is supposed to come to old people- and usually that's true. And usually, Parents die *before* their Children. So, it is a very hard thing when a Child dies and the Parents have to bury their Children. But it is also very, very strange.

Now as to *why* Jairus bowed before Jesus- there are a couple of possibilities,

1. He was overcome with Emotion about his Daughter
2. He was acknowledging that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah

... and either one is possible.

But look at what the Apostle wrote in **Matthew 9:19a**,

Jesus got up and began to follow him ...

Now the verb that was translated here in English as, "**got up**" came from a Greek word (*egeira*; Strong's #1453), which means: To rise; and has to do with: *getting up in haste from a sitting or a reclining position*. So, evidently, Jesus was

either sitting or reclining when Jairus came up to Him; and bowed down before Him. And this is important- because if Jesus was sitting down- and Jairus came up to Him and bowed down before Him- that would also indicate that Jairus was actually *worshipping* Jesus. And that would indicate that this Synagogue Official was actually acknowledging that Jesus was the Messiah.

So, it is very possible that as Jesus was discussing the Subject of Fasting- that God the Holy Spirit began to convict Jairus; and draw him to Jesus; so that Jesus would NOT merely heal his Daughter- but also save Jairus' soul! And that shows us how Sovereign God really is.

But why is a twelve year-old little girl- the only daughter of this man, who by all accounts was a sincere follower of God- why is she dying? What Evil has a twelve year old child done that she should suffer and die? And why would a Good God allow such Evil to triumph?

Now before we get into this- I want to draw your attention to how *inconsistent* and *contradictory* many of the Teachings are- about this Situation. There are many- not a few- but many Leaders of the modern Church, who teach that God's main and primary Goal in this Event was to raise Jairus' daughter from the Dead. And I can't tell you how much I disagree with that.

I believe that the main and primary Goal of Jesus in this Event is to do *exactly* what He said He was doing:

... the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost. (Luke 19:10)

... so, the BEST thing that could possibly be done here was to save Jairus and the daughter's soul- NOT merely raise her from the Dead.

Because, first of all- if it is the primary Goal of Jesus was to raise Jairus' daughter from the Dead- then WHY did she die later on as a Woman? Because she died once as a 12 year old child- but then she also died later on- from some other manifestation of Sin and Evil. And we know that because she is manifestly NOT alive today! So, this girl died twice! So, are we to think and believe that the very BEST that Jesus had in mind here- was to grant a few more years of Life? Because it is possible that this twelve year- old girl died again as a *young* Woman. She might not have even made it to what we consider as "old age".

And if that is the BEST and Primary Goal of Jesus- then what is the Lesson here? That He will gladly raise a twelve- year- old Child from the dead - but He will NOT keep her alive forever? And if that is true- then, at best- the Grief and Torment and Agony of her Father is only delayed a few more years- before the Enemy of Death eventually wins out! So, in that Case- how is that a Victory over

Evil? The “Evil” of both Sin and Death eventually won out against the Good of a living, breathing person.

But we must also consider this: What if the girl grew up to NOT believe? What if, when she grew- she turned to love and worship and obey the pagan gods of the Romans or the other Gentile groups? Then how would this Miracle of raising her from the Dead be considered “Good”? If this girl grew to be an Unbeliever- and died as an unbeliever- and is screaming in Hell right now- how could this Resurrection ever be considered to be a “Good” thing?

But if this Event is in the Bible to teach us that Jesus was God Almighty in human Flesh; AND if this Event is in the Bible to show us what God did in order to save Jairus’ soul (and maybe even his daughter)- then THAT would be notable indeed!

Dear friends, there are many people today, who have come to the wrong Conclusion about WHY there is so much Evil in the World- like little twelve year-old daughters getting sick and dying. And many of them ask a very serious Question:

If God is “Sovereign”; and if God is “Good”- then why does it seem as though Evil triumphs in our world?

... and so, they *incorrectly* follow this Logic:

- There is Evil in the World because God is NOT “Sovereign”
- Or, there is Evil in the World because God is NOT “Good”
- Or, there is Evil in the World because God is NOT

... and so, these people allow the Reality of Evil to formulate what they believe about God- which is the very *worst* Way to understand God.

The *best* Way- in fact, the ONLY Way to understand God- is NOT through Dreams and Visions. It is NOT through Prophetic Utterances. And it is also NOT through personal Experiences- even though many today teach that it is. The BEST Way- the ONLY Way for anyone to come to know the one, true, and living God- *rightly and fully*- is by reading and studying and believing and trusting and loving and embracing what God the Holy Spirit moved on 40 different writers to pen down on the pages of inspired; inerrant; and infallible Scripture.

Now human beings pursuing the Knowledge of God- is THE single best and most important thing that anyone could ever do. And that is why, “Theology”- which is the “Study of”; or the “Science of”; or the “Knowledge of” God- was called the “Queen of the Sciences” in every major University around the entire World- until I was born in the mid 20th Century. And this is what God Himself said about this from **Jeremiah 9:23&24**:

23 Thus says the Lord, "Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; 24 but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the Lord who exercises lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the Lord.

... so, understanding and knowing God- *correctly- biblically-* is the very BEST thing anyone could ever do.

And when that happens; when we begin to know God- *biblically*; when we begin to understand what God revealed about Himself in the pages of the 66 Books of the Holy Bible- we find that God's Relationship with Evil is like this:

- God did NOT create Evil
- God created the arch-angel, "Lucifer", who rebelled against God in Heaven; and God cast him down to the earth along with 1/3 of all the Angels
- Lucifer became "satan" when he fell
- Lucifer; the devil; satan is the "Father of Lies"
- satan introduced "Evil" into the World by tempting the first Man (Adam)
- Now that satan has been on the earth for around 6-10,000 years- "Evil" is now the *summation* of all the Thoughts; Actions; and Words of fallen Humans
- God sovereignly *uses* Evil to cause His Will to come to pass

... and the half-brother of Jesus, who also became the *first* Pastor of the Church of Jerusalem said this in **James 1:13-16**:

13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

So, please remember three things:

1. **God cannot be tempted by Evil**
2. **He Himself [God] does not tempt anyone**
3. **Each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own**

lust.

So, God is always “above” any Temptation. And because God is pristine in His own Character and Nature (Substance/Essence)- there is NOTHING *within* God that would allow Temptation to ever take root and be effective in Him. So, in that sense- God is completely IMMUNE to any Temptation of satan. Also, there is NOTHING that satan could tempt God with- that God does not already have- in fullness! So, God CANNOT be trapped; tricked; fooled; coerced; or blackmailed into Sin of any kind.

So, God is always and in all Ways- completely Sovereign over Evil. And God’s Disposition toward Evil is this:

1. God is ending Evil now- to *some* Degree- by saving wicked Rebels
2. God will utterly destroy ALL Evil on the earth- when He returns- by destroying ALL unrepentant evil people

So, by radically transforming evil people- through the Miracle of the New Birth- God is bringing Evil to an End right now- to a large Degree. But ALL Evil will be finally removed from the earth- when Jesus comes back- when King Jesus forcefully and sovereignly removes all unrepentant evil people from the earth.

But right now- because all of the Elect have not been saved (or born) yet- God sovereignly USES Evil to help further His Own Will in the earth. And in His Kindness toward His people- God put several real-life Examples in the Bible to teach us this amazing Concept:

God sovereignly allows Evil to a *certain* Extent; with *certain* People; at *certain* Times; in *certain* Situations- so that a greater “Good” will come forth- that would NOT have come forth- had God not allowed the Evil

... and the Bible teaches us about the Life of Joseph; and Samson; and Job; and David; and many others- who were confronted with great “Evil”- which, for a Time- seemed to *triumph over* what is “Good”. But in each case- the “Evil” that God sovereignly “allowed”- helped to bring about an infinitely *greater* “Good”- that would NOT have come about- had God not allowed the Evil. But perhaps the *best* Example of this is found in the Relationship between Judas Iscariot and Jesus.

Was Judas’ Betrayal of Jesus, “Evil”? Yes! It was *very* Evil. It was, perhaps, the *most grievous* Display of Evil in all of human History! So, yes, Judas’ betrayal of Jesus was, “Evil”. But was it God’s Will for Judas to betray Jesus? Dr, Luke infallibly wrote this in **The Acts 2: 22&23:**

22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know—

23 this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.

Now look closely as to what Dr. Luke infallibly quoted the Apostle Peter was saying in verse 23:

... this Man [Jesus], delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.

Notice two completely opposite things in this verse:

1. The predetermined Plan and Foreknowledge of God
2. You nailed to the Cross by the Hands of godless men

... so, here we have two Components that brought about the Death of Jesus:

1. The sovereign Will of God (the predetermined Plan and Foreknowledge of God)
2. Human Will (godless men nailing Jesus to the Cross)

... and these two Components sit and work parallel to each other.

So, Jesus was “delivered over” (betrayed) by Judas Iscariot. And that Act of Betrayal was “Evil”. But was that Act of Betrayal God’s Will? Yes, it was! Luke wrote that it was...

... the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God ...

But did God FORCE Judas to betray Jesus? NO! How do we know that? Because the first Pastor of the Church of Jerusalem infallibly wrote this:

James 1:13b

... He [God] Himself does not tempt anyone.

So, while it is true that God absolutely DOES “TRY” us and “TEST” us- He NEVER tempts us. So, what is the Difference between Trying; Testing; and Tempting? The Difference is in the Goal. The Goal of Temptation is ALWAYS

that we fail God and sin. The Goal of God- Trying and Testing already saved people- is ALWAYS to help make them *stronger* and to cause their Faith to be *genuine- by exposing their own Weaknesses so they can see where they really are.* So, the Way we should understand what James said is:

James 1:13b

... He Himself does not tempt anyone [to sin/to commit Evil].

So, WHY did Judas betray Jesus? Because he *wanted* to. James said this in **James 1:14b:**

... each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

... so, it was already in Judas' heart to turn against Jesus. It was "his own" Lust.

So, all satan did- was to give Judas an Opportunity to do what he WANTED to do, anyway. Satan did NOT FORCE Judas to betray Jesus. And God did NOT FORCE Judas to betray Jesus, either. Judas was NOT saved. And Judas was NOT happy with the Way Jesus conducted His Life. And so, God sovereignly allowed satan to tempt Judas to act out on the deep Disillusionment that he already had with Jesus- by betraying Him.

But WHY would a "Good" God desire that Judas betray Jesus? WHY would a Good and Sovereign God desire that this Act of Evil be carried out? So, that an infinitely *greater* "Good" would come forth- that would NOT have come forth if God had not allowed that Evil. So, what is the "Good" that came forth from Judas' Betrayal of Jesus that would NOT have come forth had Judas NOT betrayed the Lord? The eternal Salvation of all of God's elect!

So, while the sovereign Will of God was carried out so that all of God's elect would be saved- the man (Judas) and the men (the Soldiers) by whom God's Will was carried out- committed a horrible Act of Evil! And they did that horrible Act of Evil- because they *wanted* to! And because it was their Choice to do so- God was Just to damn them for all Eternity!

So, WHY would a Good and Sovereign God allow a little twelve- year- old girl to get sick and die? Two potential Reasons:

1. So that Jesus could prove His Divine Authority over Death as God
2. So that Jairus (and maybe his daughter) could be saved

... which would be the "Good" that would come forth precisely because God allowed the Evil to be manifested *first*.

So, by reading and studying and meditating and pondering what the Holy Bible actually teaches- we see that while God didn't *create* Evil. And while God

NEVER *forces* anyone to sin or to do Evil- God *does* USE the Evil that is already in the heart of Man- and God *governs* and *controls* that Evil- so that His Will always comes to pass. And so, we must agree with the Divine Principle that says: **God sovereignly allows Evil to a *certain* Extent; with *certain* People; at *certain* Times; in *certain* Situations- so that a greater “Good” will come forth- that would NOT have come forth- had God not allowed the Evil**

Now the Reason that God “saw to it” that the various Examples of this Principle are in the Bible is two fold:

1. God wanted to teach us this Principle
2. The End of our own Situation is unclear to us

God used many different people in many different Situations throughout His Word to teach this Divine Principle to us. But He also put these Examples in the Bible because our own Situation is NOT clear- it isn’t finished yet.

You see, we know about the End of Judas’ Life. We see the End Result of Job’s Life; and Abraham’s; and Noah’s; and Jonah’s; and all the rest. But our Situation may still be *ongoing*. So, we may not see the Good that God is going to bring about by allowing Evil to seemingly triumph over us for a Season- yet. The End of our Situation may NOT be understood by us – yet. And so, in His Kindness to us- God “moved” on several writers to pen these Examples down- so that we would have Hope; and develop Faith and Trust- that what God did with them- He will do with us.

So, even if our Test and Trial is “white-hot” right now; and even though all it looks like to us, at this moment- is that Evil is winning; the Promise from a God, who cannot lie- is that by allowing that Evil; to that Extent; at that Time; with that Person- in that Situation- an infinitely greater “Good” will come forth- that would NOT have come forth- had God not allowed that Evil to touch our Lives and to seemingly be victorious for a Season! And because God put these Examples in the Bible- we can trust and hope and have Faith that our God is absolutely Sovereign over everything- all the Time- and that He has our best Interests in mind!

The Bible teaches that ALL of the Sins of those who have trusted in Jesus Christ and in His finished Work- have been forgiven- forever! And so, God is NOT punishing us- with the Evil that He may allow. God is answering the Prayers we have prayed- that He will draw us higher and closer and nearer to Him! And God is proving to us- that He has NOT forgotten us! And God is proving to us- that Evil is NOT Sovereign; satan is NOT Sovereign; and we are NOT Sovereign. God alone is Sovereign- and the Promise from God to every believer is:

Romans 8:28

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Now the Fact that Jesus rose up in haste when Jairus told Him about his Daughter- shows us that Jesus was very *approachable*. And as I said last time- Jesus was very *accessible* to the people. He was *always* available to reach out- to save; and to heal; and to prove His Own “Messiah-ship”. So, Jesus was “*interruption*” and He was literally *inexhaustible* in dealing with people's Needs.

So, Jesus got up in haste and He began to travel to where this little girl was lying in bed- dead. And we saw that, as He was on His Way to Jairus’ house- the Woman with an Issue of blood met Him and was healed.

But as Jesus and Jairus and the large Crowd of people- including the Disciples- were coming near to Jairus’ house- Dr. Luke tells us that Jairus got the News that no one ever wants to hear.

Luke 8:49

While He was still speaking, someone came from the house of the synagogue official, saying, "Your daughter has died; do not trouble the Teacher anymore."

Boom! It’s all over now! The End has come! This man’s ONLY LITTLE daughter has died! And that News had to hit Jairus harder than anything he had ever heard before.

Now up until he heard this bad News- Jairus had Hope. He had successfully gotten Jesus’ Attention- and they are not far from Jesus doing for his daughter what Jairus has either seen himself or heard that Jesus did for many others. But now- all the Hope and Anticipation that he had- was melted away. There’s no Hope at all now. What’s the use of going any further? And Jairus may have thought about what Job said in **Job 3:23**:

For what I fear comes upon me, And what I dread befalls me.

... his little girl was dead and it’s all over now.

But then Jesus spoke to this Jewish Ruler and said,

Luke 8:50b

Do not be afraid any longer; only believe, and she will be made well.

... and while many in the modern Church will teach that Jesus was talking about having the Faith for his daughter to be healed- the Context is that Jesus wanted Jairus to *continue* to believe that He was God Almighty in human Flesh- even though it looked like all was lost.

Now Matthew's Account of this Event is NOT Chronological. So, in **Matthew 9:18b**- Jairus told Jesus,

... My daughter has just died; but come and lay Your hand on her, and she will live.

... and he said this AFTER the Messenger told them that the girl was dead. So, even now- even with all this bad News- Jairus believes that Jesus is God.

And when you combine all that the three Synoptic Records teach about this Event- Jesus told Jairus,

"You were believing- so, now, keep on believing!"

... do not forget WHO I am! Believe that I am God! And that there is NOTHING that can hinder Me- not even Death!

So, now Jesus comes to Jairus' house. And when He enters inside- He is met with the Sight of an ancient Jewish Custom:

Matthew 9:23

When Jesus came into the official's house, and saw the flute-players and the crowd in noisy disorder,

Now we've all been to Funerals, probably a lot of Funerals- more than we wanted. And the standard Behavior for Funerals in our Culture- is that we are very quiet. So, we speak to each other in quiet tones while the organ or some soft, sweet music plays in the background. Nobody laughs or talks real loud; and everybody is watching that the Children don't run around. That's the Way it usually is at a Funeral in America.

But back in the 1st Century at a Jewish Funeral- there would have been absolute Hysteria going on- complete with people- usually women- screaming, wailing, howling, shrieking- while there is sad, morbid Music playing on flutes. That's what they did. It was noisy Disorder!

Now there were 3 Ways to express Grief at a Jewish Funeral back in the 1st Century:

1. You tore your Garments. So, before you went to the Funeral, you picked the Garment you didn't want to wear anymore. If you were the Mother or the Father, then you ripped the Garment over your heart. Everybody else- ripped near the heart. And it had to be a hole big enough to put a fist through. And you left it that way for a month so people would see your sustained broken-heartedness. Your heart had been torn by the loss of this person.

Now what is interesting is that the Jews got so good at this particular thing that there were actually thirty-nine separate Rules for ripping your clothes. And to be modest- Women would rip the garment under their outer cloak and then wear it backwards.

2. Hire professional Women who screamed and wailed. Women are much more effective at screaming because they have high, shrill voices.

And they would wail and then call the name the person that died and then they would remember everybody who had died in the past and they would speak their names and wail about them, too. So what happened was you had the accumulated wailing of everybody who had died in that Family. So, all the Memories of past Grievances were revived at a Funeral.

3. Play morbid Music with flutes. And even the poor in Israel were required to have at least two flutes and one wailing lady. So a Ruler of a Synagogue probably had a whole lot of flutes; and a whole lot of wailing women.

So, that's the Scene that confronted Jesus as He walked into Jairus' house. Now Mark tells us that Jesus only allowed Peter, James, and John to go in with Him. So, that large Crowd of people were left outside. And this shows that not all the Apostles had equal access to everything Jesus did. These three men were Jesus' most *intimate* Followers.

And when Jesus saw all this Chaos- He said,

Leave; for the girl has not died, but is asleep. (Matthew 9:24a)

... and the Response of the unbelieving Jews was,

And they began laughing at Him.

Now this is NOT the "Ha-Ha" kind of Laughter. This is derisive and condemning Laughter. So, as they were laughing at Jesus- they were saying, "*What a Fool! What an Idiot! Doesn't He know that the little girl is Dead?*"

Now what is interesting is that NOBODY argued with Jesus. I mean many of these people had been hired to be there. They had been paid or would be paid to do what they were doing. And yet, when Jesus said, "*Leave!*"- they just went out of the house- without arguing. And that shows us that Jesus' Word here had all the very Authority of God Himself! Now Matthew said that Jesus,

... took her by the hand, and the girl got up.

... but Luke said that Jesus,

... took her by the hand and called, saying, "Child, arise!" (Luke 8:54b)

... and then the good doctor wrote,

Luke 8:54

And her spirit returned, and she got up immediately; and He gave orders for something to be given her to eat.

Immediately! No Recovery period! No IV lines; and no heart Monitors- just a dead girl sat up and was alive!

Now Luke was a medical Doctor and so, he focused on the the Response of her Parents. Luke had seen Death before and what it did to the Parents of a dad Child. And so, he was interested in recording their Reaction to what Jesus had just done. So, in **Luke 8:56-** he wrote,

Her parents were amazed; but He instructed them to tell no one what had happened.

... but Matthew was focused on his Jewish brethren believing in Jesus and so, Matthew's final word on this Event was:

This news spread throughout all that land.

... while John Mark wrote:

Mark 5:41-43

41 Taking the child by the hand, He said to her, "Talitha kum!" (which translated means, "Little girl, I say to you, get up!").

42 Immediately the girl got up and began to walk, for she was twelve years old. And immediately they were completely astounded.

43 And He gave them strict orders that no one should know about this, and He said that something should be given her to eat.

... and once again, we are left to be stunned and amazed that the Jesus we read about; and love; and worship- is God Almighty in human Flesh and has Authority over Death itself!

And that gives us great Hope that even if Evil seems to be winning at this Moment- God will bring the greater Good to us! And so, even if we die before Jesus comes back- Death will NOT have the last word because Jesus will deliver us from Death and we will live with Him forever!

Amen. Let's pray.

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