

Luke 4:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he arose out of the synagogue, and entered into Simon's house. And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her.

Analysis

And he arose out of the synagogue, and entered into Simon's house. And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever. After the synagogue exorcism, Jesus goes to Peter's home. The detail that Peter had a wife's mother confirms Peter's married status (mentioned in 1 Corinthians 9:5). The phrase *synechomenē pyretō megalō* (συνεχομένη πυρετῷ μεγάλῳ, gripped by a great fever) indicates serious illness—Luke, the physician, notes the fever's severity.

And they besought him for her. The phrase *ērōtēsan auton peri autēs* (ἠρώτησαν αὐτὸν περὶ αὐτῆς, they asked him concerning her) shows the family's faith. Having just witnessed Jesus' authority over demons, they immediately seek His help for physical illness. This demonstrates growing faith—they expect Jesus can and will heal.

Historical Context

First-century households were multi-generational, so Peter's mother-in-law living with Peter and his wife was normal. Capernaum homes were modest structures built around courtyards. Peter's house has been excavated, showing a typical fisherman's dwelling that was later converted into a house-church. The family's immediate appeal to Jesus reveals the intimacy developing between Jesus and His disciples. Peter's home became a ministry base where public teaching in the

synagogue extended into private miracles in the home. This pattern continues—Jesus ministers in both public and private spheres.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What does the family's immediate appeal to Jesus reveal about the relationship between witnessing Jesus' power and exercising faith?
2. How does Jesus' willingness to heal in a private home demonstrate that His ministry extends beyond public religious settings?
3. What does Peter having a wife's mother teach about the normalcy of marriage among Jesus' disciples?

Interlinear Text

Ἄναστας δὲ ἐκ τῆς συναγωγῆς εἰσῆλθεν εἰς τὴν
he arose And out of the synagogue and entered into G3588

G450

G1161

G1537

G3588
G4864

G1525

G1519

G3588

οἰκίαν Σίμωνος ἡ πενθερὰ δὲ τοῦ Σίμωνος ἦν
house Simon's G3588 wife's mother And G3588 Simon's was G2258

G3614

G4613

G3994

G1161

G4613

G2258

συνεχομένη πυρετῷ μεγάλῳ καὶ ἡρώτησαν αὐτῆς περὶ
taken with fever a great and they besought her for G4012

G4912

G4446

G3173

G2532

G2065

G846

G4012

αὐτῆς

her

G846

Additional Cross-References

John 11:22 (Parallel theme): But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee.

1 Corinthians 9:5 (Parallel theme): Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?

Matthew 15:23 (Parallel theme): But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

John 11:3 (Parallel theme): Therefore his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.

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