

Luke 8:50

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.

Analysis

Jesus encourages Jairus: 'Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.' This command came after news arrived that Jairus' daughter had died (v. 49). The dual imperative—'fear not' and 'believe only'—addresses natural fear with supernatural faith. The Greek 'monon pisteue' (μόνον πίστευε, only believe) demands exclusive trust in Jesus despite impossible circumstances. The promise 'she shall be made whole' (Greek 'sōthēsetai,' σωθήσεται, will be saved/made whole) assures resurrection. Faith and fear cannot coexist—Jesus calls for faith that conquers fear even when facing death.

Historical Context

Jairus, a synagogue ruler, fell at Jesus' feet begging Him to heal his dying twelve-year-old daughter (v. 41-42). En route, Jesus stopped to address the hemorrhaging woman (v. 43-48), during which Jairus' daughter died. News of death would normally end hope—but Jesus commands continued faith. His resurrection of the girl (v. 54-55) validated this faith-call. The phrase 'fear not, believe only' became a foundational Christian principle—faith displaces fear, trust in Christ overcomes impossible circumstances. Jairus' faith despite his daughter's death illustrates trusting Jesus even when situations seem hopeless.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does Jesus' command 'fear not: believe only' address the relationship between faith and fear in impossible circumstances?
2. What does Jesus' raising Jairus' daughter after commanding faith teach about trusting Him even when situations appear hopeless?

Interlinear Text

ὁ	δὲ	Ἰησοῦς	ἀκούσας	ἀπεκρίθη	αὐτῷ	λέγων,	Μὴ
G3588	But	when Jesus	heard	it he answered	him	saying	not
	G1161	G2424	G191	G611	G846	G3004	G3361
φοβοῦ	μόνον	πίστευε,	καὶ	σωθήσεται			
Fear	only	believe	and	she shall be made whole			
G5399	G3440	G4100	G2532	G4982			

Additional Cross-References

John 11:40 (Faith): Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

Mark 5:36 (Faith): As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe.

John 11:25 (Faith): Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

Luke 8:48 (Faith): And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace.

Romans 4:17 (Faith): (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

Isaiah 50:10 (Faith): Who is among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

Mark 9:23 (Faith): Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.

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