



## **BIBLE RADIO PRODUCTIONS INC.**

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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

**A1642 ~ The Healing of Jarius' Daughter.**

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*Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.*

Only in the last few decades have scientists discovered the importance of our blood for the good health of our bodies. In the Old Testament book of Leviticus in Chapter 17, written in 1400 BC, God declared to Moses that blood is the source of life. He said: "For the life of the flesh is in the blood." God then gave Moses many rules that taught the people of Israel to respect other human beings as well as the animals. God made and loves each person and irrespective of their stage of life, from newborn to elderly, each person has value in God's eyes.

Because God has given us life, we have a responsibility to take good care of our own health as well as those around us. Because Christians are told in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 2, that we are God's Temple and His Holy Spirit lives in us, we preserve our physical health by not smoking, overeating, taking party drugs, drinking much alcohol or eating poor quality food. There are other things taken in excess, which also will cause our body's blood to get out of balance and result in sickness.

In today's Bible Adventure drama, the 12-year-old daughter of a synagogue ruler lay dying. While Jesus was coming to heal her, a woman in the crowd made an effort to touch Jesus' clothing so that she could be healed of a persistent blood loss. She'd been troubled with this condition for 12 years and gone from doctor to doctor without getting any better. In fact, she was getting worse and she'd spent all her money trying to get well. But she believed that Jesus could help her, just as He had helped so many others.

These two healings in today's drama are recorded in Mark 5, Luke 8 and Matthew 9.

Women often feel sympathetic towards the poor woman with the issue of blood loss. When she visited each new doctor, she would have been filled with hope that this one would cure her. But this never happened. She became physically weaker and financially poorer. Her blood condition prevented her from being allowed in the Temple to pray or take part in any Jewish festivals there.

The prayer of faith for sick people is listed in the epistle of James, Chapter 5. "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."

A 17th Century preacher said he knew many times the prayer of faith saved a sick person when all the doctors had given the person up as dead.

Faith, prayer and Christianity do a person's body good. Many studies done in the United States confirm that faith reduces depression, high blood pressure and stroke. If a person has the religious commitment of faith, prayer, worship attendance and other things, they're better off in all aspects of health. For healing is a gift from God. When His people abide or remain in Him, God sustains and strengthens them with all aspects of life, including release from pressure, stress, worry, poor habits and strong desires.

A major study of church attendance and morality revealed that people who attend church weekly live on average seven years longer than those who never attend church.

Our gratitude to God for His answers to prayer should know no bounds. We need to keep in remembrance all the things that God has done for us. We forget so easily the things we should remember, yet remember many things that we should forget.

God warned the Children of Israel in Deuteronomy, Chapter 8: “Make certain that you do not forget the Lord your God... When you have all you want to eat ...and all your other possession have increased, be sure that you do not become proud and forget the Lord your God, who rescued you from Egypt.”

Pride demands that we see ourselves as adequate, self-sufficient, needing no one and nothing outside of ourselves for our lives to function. We forget God because to remember Him is to be stripped of our independence, control and self-centredness. Make no mistake about this: Pride is a prime cause of our forgetfulness about the things that God has done for us.

Worse than this, we can suppress our thoughts of God until we focus fully on something we ourselves have made. Pride elevates this to be an idol in our lives. We can also choose to relax after a busy or difficult day by doing things that don't refresh or feed our minds and hearts on God's goodness. We may watch something on TV that's full of violence or listen to music about worldly values; we can even read a degrading book full of immoral and criminal deeds. We have to learn that to reach our full potential as human beings, we should live in awe of God and in thankfulness to Him, bowing in humility and repenting from what the Holy Spirit prompts our conscience as unhealthy and evil.

It's worthy to note that not everyone seeking healing is restored to the full health they want. Rather, they live and labour for the Lord while having a handicap of some sort that makes them cling closer to Jesus to depend on Him more.

About 20 years ago, a German woman named Elizabeth went to her dentist for what was supposed to be a routine dental procedure. She left his office with a severely damaged nerve in her jaw. Shooting pains worse than a toothache constantly crossed over to the right hand side of her face.

To rid herself of the terrible pain, Elizabeth went from one doctor to another for the next six months but none of them could provide something to relieve the torment and despair. Finally, one doctor in the United States said there was nothing more could be done and that she would have to learn to live with the pain.

Elizabeth returned to Germany, discouraged and deeply depressed. She understood how many people with similar unresolved health problems thought of ending their life. And although Elizabeth was a Christian, she was tempted to do so too. But she couldn't believe that that was God's will for her.

So Elizabeth started praying. She told God of her fear of living in constant pain. Then she remembered that Jesus said we shouldn't worry about tomorrow and that He'll give us strength for today. Elizabeth accepted that she would make it through that particular day.

While out on a walk, Elizabeth looked over her town. She saw how beautiful the scene was but realised that behind the façade there were thousands of people struggling with personal problems as the result of war. She believed the Lord said to her: "Elizabeth, these women are suffering like you are today and they want to give up. But their pain is different – it's emotional." Elizabeth no longer felt alone in her pain. She longed to help and encourage these women. That morning, the vision for a Christian women's magazine for Europe was born.

In the next 10 years of publication, this women's magazine achieved a circulation of a million readers in three languages. Its message has been simple – hope and encouragement can be found through faith in Christ and His Word. When women write to Elizabeth and tell her that her magazine has helped them, she feels healing from this too.

The pain in Elizabeth's face is still her constant companion but it's not as overwhelming these days as it used to be. In searching the Scriptures for words of comfort, Elizabeth found Psalm 34 – “Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all.”

Be encouraged to use your circumstances, pain and even loss, for serving the Lord; He promises to bring good out your situation – for His glory and your eternal joy. Don't be upset if the Lord hasn't answered your prayers in the way that you have asked. Instead, seek God's will and strength to deal with each moment in front of you as a faithful servant.

You will find that Jesus will direct you, comfort you and always awaken you to embrace new opportunities opening up before you. Even if your life has changed, God and His promises haven't. And God knows what is best for each of us.

Keep in your memory these words of Proverbs Chapter 3 Verses 5 and 6: “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths.”

*The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.*

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