Then He touched their eyes, saying,
"According to your faith be it unto you."
~Matthew 9:29

Jerusalem 26 AD

"SHUT UP!" I screamed to that voice in my head… *"You go out in public and they'll kill you - you know the law,"* it kept saying.

Yes, I know the law, but I'm desperate and twelve years with this disease is long enough. I've heard some remarkable stories about this man, Jesus, and his ability to heal. All he has to do is touch you and you get your healing. Well, I'm gonna get my healing too, law or no law… all I've got to do is find him and get him to touch me.

Walking through the city along the streets crowded with the business of the day isn't going to be an easy task. Maybe, if I disguised myself; cover up my face and hide in the shadows while I look for him… it'll work. It must work.

Let's see, I heard he and those closest to him traveled by boat yesterday over to the Gadarenes; hopefully, he'll be back sometime today. I'll ask him to heal me when I see him today.

Oh, Lord God! I'll be healed today. *Today!* Bless the LORD… no more finger-pointing. No more whispering behind my back. No more costs - as if I could pay out more for doctors, any way. And no more pain!

- - - Later that day…- - -

The docks - many boats here; is his boat here? How would I know? I can't just go up and start asking people…I can't stop some one and …. Wait, what's that I hear? A lot of voices, someone is crying *"Jesus!"*. He must be back. *"Follow those voices woman, there you'll find him."*

My goodness! There's a bunch of people here. How am I going to get him to touch me, now? I know. If I can't get him to touch me, then I'll touch him. I'll press through this crowd - they won't notice me among everybody else. I'll touch him - even if it's just the hem of his clothes.

Oh no! Who's that? *Jairus.* He's the ruler of the synagogue; he'll recognize me, or at least my sickness. Then he'll command that I be stoned. I'll be killed. What am I gonna do?

"You'll be dead anyway if you don't get healed," again, that voice.

That's right. Either way I'll be dead. Stones, or bleed to death - both give the same result: death. I've gotta touch him. There's no other way. Today I'm gonna be healed. I'm going to touch him, crowd or no crowd; Jairus or no Jairus.

Almost there; another 10 feet and I'll be able to touch him. I see others reaching out, others crying out to him. He's ignoring them… what's wrong? Why doesn't he just touch this crowd and disperse it? I've got to push harder; I've got to get up front…

There he is… I can hear those with him; almost there... reach, woman; stretch out - you can do it. Touch him NOW!

Oh, my God! I felt it - I felt … something go into me. I feel different. I feel good; first time in twelve years. I'm healed!! Praise the Lord! I'm healed.

Oh no… he stopped; he's turning around; looking for someone.

"Who touched my clothes?" he asks.

"Master, you see the crowd. They are all touching you, and you're asking 'Who touched me?'" one of his disciples asked.

Jesus kept scanning the crowd.

"He knows!. He knows. Go, woman and tell him the truth. Maybe he'll have mercy on you." I thought.

"It was I, Jesus. I touched you. I wanted my healing. So I touched you knowing that I would be healed if I could just touch you - even if it was only your clothes…" I sobbed, as I fell before him.

Jesus gently picked me up to my feet and, as I looked into his eyes, he said, *"Daughter, your faith has made you whole; go in peace and be whole of thy plague."*

He didn't scold me or punish me at all; he had such compassionate eyes… he knows… he healed me. I am healed!

/_ /_ /_ /_ /_ /_ /_ /_ /_ /_

The above story is from Mark 5:21-34, concerning the woman with the issue of blood.

If you would read that account, you'll notice that Jesus said: *"Your faith has made you whole."* He didn't say, "My power made you whole." He said that the woman's faith made her whole.

If her faith made her whole, surely, your faith can make you whole. What's keeping you from your *[healing]*? *(substitute "healing" with whatever you have need of).*

Many years ago, a woman and I were discussing healing, and she said to me something along the lines of: *I won't be healed until I deal with* _____. (She named an area in her life that she had for many years and had dominated her throughout her life.)

I was about to jump on her way of thinking, like a chicken on a bug, and tell her that she could deal with that problem right now by repenting and confessing it to the Lord, and thereby receive forgiveness, when the Lord jumped on me instead, and said: *"Don't you do it! Don't you do it."*

I stopped, and He continued: *"Where do you **ever** find Me telling people to come up to My level of faith and get them to agree with Me for the answer to their need? Every time, I went to their level of faith, agreeing with them saying 'According to YOUR faith, so be it.'*

"You agree with her. It may take longer doing it her way, but the end-result will be the same: she'll get her healing."

He then reminded me, *"If any two of you agree on earth touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven."* (Matthew 18:19).

Have you ever had the Lord correct you like that? It doesn't feel good at the time, but it is good in the long-run.

The chorus lyrics to the song, *"He Came Down to Our Level"* are as follows:

He came down to my level
When I couldn't get up to His;
With a strong arm, He lifted me up
To show me what living is.

He'll come down to your level
If you'll open up the door;
He wants to make your life worth living,
That's what He came down for.

He comes to our level of faith. Even if it's just the size of a mustard seed - He can make it produce. *"According to your faith - so be it."*

We don't have to be perfect, or one with BIG faith: He meets us on OUR level of faith. That's good news. We don't get answers to our prayers on the basis of meeting HIS level - He meets with us in the smallness of our faith.

Our faith, in comparison to His, is very small. That's why He gave us His Word so we can increase our expectancy of His faithfulness to perform His promises. Romans 10:17 says, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing comes by the Word of God."

The more His Word is heard, received and remains in us, then we can ask what we want and it will be given to us (John 15:7). Once His Word gets IN us and REMAINS *(meaning, to take up residence, to live and abide, IN)* then we won't be asking some off-the-wall crazy stuff. Why? Because we will be praying: "Not my will - but Thine be done."

I heard that President Reagan, while in office, prayed each morning: "Lord, let Your will be done **IN** me today."

Hebrews 11:6 tells us that "without faith, it is impossible to please God." It's not through us being good enough that obtains the blessing; it's through HIS faithfulness to perform His promises that gives us those blessings. Our faith only obtains that which He offers. He offers what he purchased and *that [purchase]* is recorded in His Word.

There are many scriptures recorded wherein Jesus said, "According to your faith," or something similar. I challenge you to go through the four Gospels and find them. Then say to yourself, *"If their faith can heal them, then MY faith can heal me."*

Faith is simply believing that He will do what He has promised to do. If you don't know what He will do, then how can you possibly believe that you can have the petition which you are requesting? You can not. Faith begins with the revealed KNOWN will of God. He doesn't change. His will isn't "yes" today, and "no" tomorrow.

The Word says, "ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD ARE YEAH (yes) and AMEN - in HIM" and we are IN HIM. (2 Cor. 1:20 / Act 17:28)

God has done everything He could to get to us answers to any possible need we would ever encounter. He's on our side, and it pleases Him to give us the Kingdom AND EVERYTHING IN THAT KINGDOM (see Luke 12:32 and Romans 8:32).

You are valuable to Him and He has a plan to use you IN that Kingdom. He has made it easy for you to receive. We are the ones who have made it hard on ourselves.

Learn to Trust Him and believe Him. Learn to take Him at His Word. It'll set you free from whatever is holding you back from fulfilling His purpose in and for you. It'll instill that inner peace, knowing that He, indeed, has your best interest at heart. Say this with me:

"For God is working in me, giving me the desire to obey Him and the power to do what pleases Him." (Philippians 2:13)

We can do it… Greater is He that is in US than he that is in this world. (1 John 4:4) †

"People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine
when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true
beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within."
- Elizabeth Kübler-Ross, Psychiatrist and Author