



HELPING HEARTS THAT DOUBT

LUKE 8:22-25

Introduction: Do you doubt? In what ways? Who or what? Would you admit it? How would we or, do we respond to doubters? Would we love and encourage doubters?

I. Defining Doubt

- Uncertainty about the truth and reality of spiritual things. Atheism, Agnosticism; Ambivalence; Hesitation; Indecision; Mistrust; Reluctance; Skepticism; Suspicion; Unbelief
- Previous healings recorded by Luke
 - Luke 5:12-16 - Heals a leper
 - Luke 5:17-26 - Heals a paralytic
 - Luke 6:6-11 - Heals man with withered hand
 - Luke 7:17-19 - Heals the crowds of all sorts of diseases
 - Luke 7:1-17 - Heals centurions' servant

Consider the text:

(v. 22) An afternoon starts out as _____

(v. 23) Afraid by the unexpected and _____
Real _____ time in life

(v. 24) Afraid when we don't get immediate _____ we desire
Afraid and full of doubt so we go to the Lord and beg Him to pay
attention, to _____ and _____
The response of the winds and the sea was astounding

(v. 25) Jesus connects their fear with _____ in Him
The disciples discussion is important and necessary
"what sort of man is this?"

II. Doubt Is Definite

A) Real

B) _____

C) _____

- Disappointments
- Detours
- Devastating life events
- Depression

D) "Doubting _____"

Matthew 14:29-31; Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:14-16;

Gideon - Judges 6:11-16; Barak - Judges 4; Hebrews 11:32

Luke 8:22-25 (ESV)

"One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side of the lake." So they set out, (23) and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a windstorm came down on the lake, and they were filling with water and were in danger. (24) And they went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we are perishing!" And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves, and they ceased, and there was a calm.

(25) He said to them, "Where is your faith?" And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, "Who then is this, that he commands even winds and water, and they obey him?"

III. Defending Doubt? NO!

- A) Doubting God completely (Atheism, Agnosticism)
- B) Doubting _____ in the Lord's work
Doubt about myself may be transferred to doubt of God and His power and ability.
- C) Self-doubt can become _____ doubt
 - Our Heavenly Father Cares! (Matthew 7:7-11)
 - Self-defeating mentality is not dangerous because of our perception of ourselves but our perception of God.

IV. Dealing with Doubt

- A) Myself (James 1:4-8)

D o what you can now
O rder my life in _____
U nconditional love from the _____
B elieve your doubt can be _____
T ell the Lord you believe and want His help

"Increase our faith!" (Luke 17:5-6)
"Help my unbelief"
_____ my doubt
_____ for help
_____ your faith is
still present and active

- B) Others (Jude 1:20-23)

"But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh."

Conclusion: When our faith is overcome with fear we will then be overcome with doubt. Doubt will overwhelm us until we truly consider "Who is this?"

Have we come to the point that we know Jesus was not just some teacher, great teacher? Do we understand He was not only a prophet? When we do and we trust in Him we will be putting our faith into one who can sleep in the midst of such a storm and calm the sea with a word.

