Acts 9:36-43

NOW THERE WAS AT JOPPA Dorcas: THE CHRISTIAN NEEDLEWOMAN

-Sermon by Jess Hall. Preached at Taylor

Center, Michigan lectureship program Sunday night, April 12, 1964

THE LIFE OF DORCAS

1. Her brief biography comprised in a single verse. Acts 8:36
2. Dorcas was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

1. Full, not half full therefore, half empty.

2. Not full of pretences, words, hearing sermons, public assmeblies alone.

DORCAS WAS A DISCIPLE OF THE LORD TABITHA DORCAS GAZELLE

1. It was not at all popular to be a disciple of the Lord in those days.

2. To be a disciple of the Lord in those days "separated the men from the boys" as we often say.

3. Being a disciple of the Lord in those days often meant the difference between

life and death itself.

THERE WAS IN JOPPA A WOMAN WITH A NEEDLE-A DISCIPLE

1. Her needle was as noble as Moses' rod, David's sling, Shamgar's ox-goad.

2. Her needle was her answer to the Lord's question of old. Exodus 4:2: "What is that in thine hand?"

3. With her needle she embroidered her name ineffaceably into the charities of the world. She went forth with a burning desire to do good and capture the hearts of men for Christ. She may have known of the simplicity with which Jesus looked at the matter of capturing the hearts and minds of men:

(1) With all of his wide out look on mankind, and his desire to capture all men Jesus is remarkable for his omission to devise machinery or organization for the accomplishment of his highest of purposes. Jesus just went about

doing good. Acts 10:38

THE DEATH OF DORCAS Acts 9:37. RESURRECTION: Acts 9:40,41

1. "And it came to pass in thosedays that she was sick, and died," will soon sum up the days of the last one of us. Your importance may be measured in two ways:

1. In the affections and benedictions of your fellow-creatures while you live.

2. In their regrets and lamentations when you die.

2. The funeral:

- 1. Peter called from Lydda to preach her funeral. Widows in the very room where her dead body lay, stood weeping, showing the coats and garments she made while she was with them. Acts 9:38,39
- 3. Her resurrection:

1. Peter put them all forth....Acts 9:40,41.

FIVE FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF LIFE SHOW UP IN THE STORY OF DORCAS. You must:

1. BELIEVE SOMETHING

1. Dorcas knew what she believed, and she knew why she believed what she believed. She was a disciple of Jesus when weaklings were not found among the disciples.

2. BE SOMETHING

1. Your life will be in keeping with what you believe. Believing the right thing important. The man must be greater than any book he may write, song that he may sing, or any lesson that he may teach. Back of whatever a man does is the man himself.

3. DO SOMETHING

1. Many full of good ideas, nothions . World waiting for men who will do.

4. SEE SOMETHING

1. The junk man makes a living in the cast away of others. The man who can see the unseen is the man who will succeed.

5. YOU MUST LEAVE SOMETHING
1. Look what Dorcas left behind. What are you leaving the world by which to remember you. Not many can leave a big estate. All can leave a good name.

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