

“Is it Superstition or Faith?”

Based on Mark 5:25-34 (NIV)

July 15, 2018

Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

Mark 5:27-28

27 When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak,

28 because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed."

† **A popular belief in Jesus' time was that the clothes of a holy man passed on healing power and if you touched the clothes, you would receive some of that healing power.**

† **With healing, it is much more than the robe or an object.**

† **The woman had this problem for 12 years, yet she never gave up trying to be cured.**

Mark 5:29-31

29 Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

31 "You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, "Who touched me?""

† **The woman knew, without a doubt, that Jesus could heal her.**

Mark 5:34 - He (Jesus) said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

† **Jesus spoke to her in gentle words, even calling her "daughter".**

† **When I come to Jesus with my deepest hurts, he will help me as his child.**

† **It was her faith, not the robe, that mattered.**

† **Faith is the glue that helps hold people's lives together.**

† (From Warren Wiersbe)

Faith is only as good as its object :

- If I trust people, I get what people can do;
- If I trust money, I get what money can do;
- If I trust myself, I get what I can do;
- If I trust God, I get what God can do.

Applying Today's Message to My Life:

† What superstitions do I have?

† How does Jesus' treatment of this sick woman offer me comfort?

† Where does my faith rest in everyday life?
- In the trying times of life?

† Do I have faith as strong as this woman that God can heal me of my hurt?

† What is one hurt or fear that I can ask the Lord to help me face this week?