

**Review:**

**Galatians 2:16 (KJV)** <sup>16</sup>Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

*Essential Christian doctrines (5 Latin phrases):*

*sola scriptura—Scripture alone*

*sola fide—faith alone*

*sola gratia—grace alone*

*sola Christus—Christ alone*

*sola Deo gloria—for the glory of God alone.*

**TODAYS TEXT:****Luke 8:1 - 3 (NASB) ----- Jesus ministers to the women**

<sup>1</sup>Soon afterwards, He *began* going around from one city and village to another, proclaiming and preaching the kingdom of God. The twelve were with Him,

<sup>2</sup>and **also some women who had been healed of evil spirits and sicknesses**: Mary who was called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,

<sup>3</sup>and Joanna the wife of Chuza, Herod's steward, and Susanna\*, and **many others who were contributing to their support out of their private means.**

*\* These women would witness Jesus' crucifixion, burial, and resurrection.*

*Jewish Rabbis refused to teach women because they were generally considered to be inferior.*

**Acts 17:12 (NLT)**

<sup>12</sup>As a result, many Jews believed, as did many of the prominent Greek women and men.

**The Prominence of Women in the Gospel of Luke****Elizabeth, mother of John the Baptist:**

Elizabeth was the mother of John the Baptist, whose work paved the way for Jesus (Luke 1:5-7). her unborn baby jumped when Mary visited (verses 41-44).

**Mary, mother of Jesus:**

Mary offered a poem of praise, the Magnificat (verses 46-55).

Mary did not understand, but treasured Jesus' sayings (2:50-51).

**Women healed by Jesus:**

Jesus healed Simon Peter's mother-in-law (4:38-39).

He healed a 12-year-old girl (8:41-42, 49-56).

He healed a woman with a 12-year infirmity (verses 43-48).

He healed a woman who had been crippled 18 years (13:10-17).

### **Women as good examples:**

- A sinful woman anointed Jesus and was forgiven (7:37-50).
- Mary listened while Martha worked (10:38-42).
- A woman in a parable found a lost coin (15:8-10).
- In another parable, a widow kept going to a judge to obtain justice (18:1-5).
- A poor widow gave two small coins to the temple (21:1-4).

### **Other roles of women:**

- Anna, a prophetess, blessed the child Jesus (2:36-38).
- Women, part of Jesus' traveling party, helped pay his way (8:1-3).
- An anonymous woman blessed Mary (11:27-28).

### **Witnesses to the resurrection:**

- Women were among those who observed the crucifixion (23:27, 49).
- Women prepared spices to anoint Jesus' body (verses 55-56).
- Women were the first to find Jesus' tomb empty (24:1-3).
- Angels told the women that Jesus had risen (verses 4-8).
- Women were the first to tell the other disciples (verses 9-11).

### **Giving:**

The New Testament church leaders were supported by:

1. gifts from friends (2 Tim. 1:16-18)

#### **2 Timothy 1:16 - 18 (NLT)**

<sup>16</sup>May the Lord show special kindness to Onesiphorus and all his family because he often visited and encouraged me. He was never ashamed of me because I was in chains.

<sup>17</sup>When he came to Rome, he searched everywhere until he found me.

<sup>18</sup>May the Lord show him special kindness on the day of Christ's return. And you know very well how helpful he was in Ephesus.

2. donations from churches (Phil. 4:15-17)

#### **Philippians 4:15 - 17 (NLT)**

<sup>15</sup>As you know, you Philippians were the only ones who gave me financial help when I first brought you the Good News and then traveled on from Macedonia. No other church did this.

<sup>16</sup>Even when I was in Thessalonica you sent help more than once.

<sup>17</sup>I don't say this because I want a gift from you. Rather, I want you to receive a reward for your kindness.

3. Paul supported himself by his own labor (2 Thes. 3:6-10).

#### **2 Thessalonians 3:7 - 9 (NLT)**

<sup>7</sup>For you know that you ought to imitate us. We were not idle when we were with you.

<sup>8</sup>We never accepted food from anyone without paying for it. We worked hard day and night so we would not be a burden to any of you.

<sup>9</sup>We certainly had the right to ask you to feed us, but we wanted to give you an example to follow.

**An important key about giving: Builds Faith = 1 Kings 17:8 - 16 (NLT)**

<sup>8</sup>Then the LORD said to Elijah, <sup>9</sup>“Go and live in the village of Zarephath, near the city of Sidon. I have instructed a widow there to feed you.”

<sup>10</sup>So he went to Zarephath. As he arrived at the gates of the village, he saw a widow gathering sticks, and he asked her, “Would you please bring me a little water in a cup?”

<sup>11</sup>As she was going to get it, he called to her, “Bring me a bite of bread, too.”

<sup>12</sup>But she said, “I swear by the LORD your God that I don’t have a single piece of bread in the house. And I have only a handful of flour left in the jar and a little cooking oil in the bottom of the jug. I was just gathering a few sticks to cook this last meal, and then my son and I will die.”

<sup>13</sup>But Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid! Go ahead and do just what you’ve said, but make a little bread for me first. Then use what’s left to prepare a meal for yourself and your son.

<sup>14</sup>For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: There will always be flour and olive oil left in your containers until the time when the LORD sends rain and the crops grow again!”

<sup>15</sup>So she did as Elijah said, and she and Elijah and her son continued to eat for many days.

<sup>16</sup>There was always enough flour and olive oil left in the containers, just as the LORD had promised through Elijah.

- Jesus taught us that “it is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).
- “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you” (Luke 6:38).

**Monday Morning Moment:** *“God loves cheerful givers!”*

**2 CORINTHIANS 9:7 - 8 (NLT)** <sup>7</sup>YOU MUST EACH DECIDE IN YOUR HEART HOW MUCH TO GIVE. AND DON’T GIVE RELUCTANTLY OR IN RESPONSE TO PRESSURE. “FOR GOD LOVES A PERSON WHO GIVES CHEERFULLY.” <sup>8</sup>AND GOD WILL GENEROUSLY PROVIDE ALL YOU NEED. THEN YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED AND PLENTY LEFT OVER TO SHARE WITH OTHERS.