FEAR NOT

But when Jesus heard it, he answered him, saying, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole. Luke 8:50 KJV

A ruler of the Synagogue by the name of Jairus had come to Jesus to seek help for his very sick daughter. According to the Bible she was dying. Before Jesus could get to her they received news that she had died. That is when Jesus instructed them not to fear. It is not always easy not to fear. In fact it is pretty big task to “not fear.” Have you ever noticed that fear is painful? I was reading a portion of the Apocrypha the other day. The verses were from the Book of Sirach 19 “ Then trembled their hearts and hands, and they were in pain, as women in travail. **20** But they called upon the Lord which is merciful, and stretched out their hands toward him: and immediately the Holy One heard them out of heaven, and delivered them by the ministry of Esay.” Sirach 48:19-20 (KJVApocrypha). We often think of trembling hearts and trembling hands but what is mentioned here is the pain that accompanies the fear. The writer described the pain similar to a woman in travail. That is a lot of pain. Imagine the pain that Jairus was experiencing as he saw his daughter, his “one only daughter”, dying.

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, came to overcome our fears and give us peace. The beautiful words of “fear not” are words that can sooth a very painful soul, especially when spoken by the Master. Fear robs us of courage and can cause us to be completely dysfunctional if we are not able to bring it under control. Christ knows how easy it is for fear to take root in our lives by starting with minor concerns which can grow into worries and then into full blown fear. I believe that is why Christ says to “take no thought” of so many things should not be of great importance to us. So in our text Jesus says “Fear not: believe only.” Our fears can and should be overcome by faith and trust in Our Lord. Faith will produce fear. When we realize that the battle is not ours but The Lord’s we can have peace no matter how large the enemy or how great the task.

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram