

# HAEBEA Home Worship: No.70

27<sup>th</sup> June 2021 – Revd Cecil White

*Welcome to worship. Find a comfortable place to sit. Spend a few moments in silence as you gather yourself, your thoughts, your feelings. Believe that God is present.*

## Gathering words

Holy, holy, holy is God the sovereign Lord of all, who was, and is, and is to come!

*Revelation 4:8*

## Opening Prayer

You are holy, God the Creator, giving us richly all things to enjoy. You are holy, Christ the Saviour of the world, made flesh to set us free. You are holy, Spirit of truth and love, willing to dwell in us. You are holy and blessed, O God, eternal Trinity, and we worship you. Amen.

## Confession of Sin

O God, we confess as individuals, as a Church, and in common with all people, that we have disobeyed your commandments. We have not worshipped you, the only God, and we have not heeded your call to holy living. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.

For all our sins we deserve your judgement and we plead for your mercy, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

Here are words you may trust, words that merit full acceptance:

‘Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.’

To all who turn to him he says: ‘Your sins are forgiven.’ He also says: ‘Follow me.’

Thanks be to God.

**Song:** **All I once held dear** by Graham Kendrick, published in 1993.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Merf00qcQik>

1. All I once held dear, built my life upon  
All this world reveres and wars to own.  
All I once thought gain I have counted loss.  
Spent and worthless now, compared to this.
2. Now my heart's desire is to know You more.  
To be found in You and known as Yours.  
To possess by faith what I could not earn.  
All-surpassing gift of righteousness
3. Oh, to know the power of Your risen life  
And to know You in Your sufferings  
To become like You in Your death, my Lord  
So with You to live and never die

### **Refrain:**

*Knowing You, Jesus*

*Knowing You*

*There is no greater thing.*

*You're my all, You're the best,*

*You're my joy, my righteousness,*

*And I love You, Lord.*

## Mark 5.21-end (NRSV)

### *A Girl Restored to Life and a Woman Healed*

<sup>21</sup> When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered round him; and he was by the lake. <sup>22</sup> Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet <sup>23</sup> and begged him repeatedly, 'My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live.' <sup>24</sup> So he went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. <sup>25</sup> Now there was a woman who had been suffering from haemorrhages for twelve years. <sup>26</sup> She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. <sup>27</sup> She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup> for she said, 'If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well.' <sup>29</sup> Immediately her haemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. <sup>30</sup> Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' <sup>31</sup> And his disciples said to him, 'You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, "Who touched me?"' <sup>32</sup> He looked all round to see who had done it. <sup>33</sup> But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. <sup>34</sup> He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.' <sup>35</sup> While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, 'Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?' <sup>36</sup> But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, 'Do not fear, only believe.' <sup>37</sup> He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. <sup>38</sup> When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. <sup>39</sup> When he had entered, he said to them, 'Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.' <sup>40</sup> And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. <sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha cum', which means, 'Little girl, get up!' <sup>42</sup> And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. <sup>43</sup> He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.



*The child is not dead. She is asleep*

## Reflection

Two happenings play out in Mark's gospel today: the healing of the woman with a hemorrhage and the raising of Jairus's daughter. Note the similarities as both characters (Jairus and the woman) take the initiative in approaching Jesus and do so out of a desperate and hopeless situation.

It is apparent that the woman has spent all her money on physicians to no avail which only goes to magnify her desperation. Jairus is advised by other 'experts' not to approach Jesus for a cure, after all: "Your daughter is dead" (5:35).

Despite their desperation for cures, both characters come to Jesus in faith for they have no other to turn to. The professional classes cannot help no matter how revered they are, instead they are shown up for their inadequacies. Like Jairus's appeal to Jesus, the woman expects that physical contact with Jesus will bring relief (5:27,28). For showing such faith she is commended by Jesus, indeed v.34 implies more than physical healing: "your faith has saved you".

The life enhancing aspect for both these enquirers is that Jesus grants them his full attention. One, a synagogue leader, and the other a nameless woman, are received by the Lord as equals - because they are both in dire straits. The nameless woman is no less important to Jesus than the child of a prominent religious leader. She, the woman, otherwise regarded as socially and religiously marginalized, is granted a conspicuous place in God's call to life and wholeness in the Kingdom.

The raising of Jairus's daughter and the healing of the nameless woman goes to prove that the voices that would intend to oppose faith in Christ, are now muted. Faith excels where human wisdom may fail.

## Prayers of intercession

Eternal God, we pray for ourselves and your whole Church..... *(Insert your own requests)*

For the victims of torture, poverty, and war.....

For those ill in body, minds, or heart.....

For those who have died unloved and forgotten.....

*(offer to God any additional prayers.....)*

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father.....

## The Benediction

The blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be with us always.

Amen.