

"CONFESSING CHRIST WITH FEAR"**Introduction**

1. A miracle in Christ's early ministry.
2. The reason for Christ's question.
3. The confession of this woman.

DOCTRINE: It is pleasing to Christ when those whom he has blessed confess their faith in Him.

1. FAITH AND FEAR MAY GO TOGETHER IN THE SOUL

- 1) None come to Christ until they are desperate.
 - (i) her affliction
 - (ii) all other help exhausted
 - (iii) something is felt when Christ heals us

APPLICATION: Grace is confirmed to the soul by the secret energy of Christ: "Sealed".
- 2) The healing was done:
 - (i) because she had faith – though weak
 - (ii) faith may have many fears
 - (iii) Christ's grace is greater than our fears

NOTE: "If our heart condemn us..." (1 John 3:20).
APPLICATION: To have fears is no proof that you do not have true faith or that Christ has not healed you.
- 2) Some whom Christ heals are slow to confess him publicly
 - (i) This woman evidently so – explain
 - (ii) her reasons

APPLICATION: You too may have your reasons for not confessing Christ publicly

2. EVEN THE FEARFUL SHOULD PROFESS CHRIST

- 1) Because very few do so in this world: Multitudes thronged the Lord here but only one "touched" him.
 - 2) Christ is worthy of this from his people.
He looks round about to see who will confess him.
 - 3) It is a great thing to be healed.
Most are in their sins – but you have got such mercy.
 - 4) Our fears must not rob the Lord of his glory.
Christ has done glorious things for us. Will you not praise Him?
 - 5) It is a help to others to confess Him.
Your courage and confession will probably help someone else.
 - 6) It strengthens ourselves to confess Him.
You will be able to say: "I did confess Christ in the end!"
 - 7) Our heart will sing for joy when we truly confess Christ.
OBSERVE: In what state of heart do you suppose this woman went home?
APPLICATION: Would it not be the same for you?
- 3. CHRIST HAS COMFORT FOR THOSE WHO OVERCOME THEIR FEARS SO AS TO CONFESS HIM**
- 1) See her extreme nervousness: v.33
(The crowd – the Lord – the question – the life-story behind it all). We can all understand her fears.
APPLICATION: All believers can understand your fears.
But why not overcome them?
 - 2) See how sweetly the Lord comforted her when she confessed him: v.34
 - (i) "Daughter": a tender word
 - (ii) the mystery explained: "faith"
 - (iii) assurance that she was healed

- (iv) "Go in peace": never said to the lost
- (v) the plague is healed

APPLICATION: Does this not coax and persuade you to do so likewise?

1. Give glory to the Lord
2. Give help to others
3. Give joy to believers
4. Bring comfort to yourself

PSALM

37: 1 – 6

57: 5 – 11

66: 16 - 20