

1/30/18

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I know of a woman who lived over 2000 years ago. She wasn't rich. She didn't live in a mansion. She wasn't famous. But people still talk about her today. Her story is short, but her life was far from insignificant. She wasn't a famous battle warrior who asked the sun to stand still. She didn't preach to crowds of people or impress the royal people of her day. She didn't perform miracles. Yet when we take a look at how she spent her time, we find the beauty of this God-fearing woman. Her days were filled with simple silent chores like sewing clothes for the poor. Not a glamorous job, right? Although she spent her time doing something that seemed unimportant, she lived a busy and tiring life. What she was doing wasn't put into the newspapers, nor on television. She wasn't interviewed or received an award from the king. God doesn't care how popular a person is.

She died. So many people were counting on her. So many people missed her. Their hearts were broken. The work that she did was noticed and with her death there was this empty place where she once served the Lord and others. The apostle Peter heard about her and what she was doing with her life and what she was doing for others. Peter went to the town where this godly woman had lived. Peter wanted to be there because he knew how important this woman really was. When he arrived, he saw the robes and other clothes that she had made while she was still alive. She was missed so much. She had helped so many people – not to gain fame or work her way into heaven. She wanted to show her love for her Lord and for others. Others were more important to her than herself.

Every stitch in those robes was a quiet sermon. Each tailored masterpiece was a tribute to God's grace and mercy. It was by God's grace that she was given those talents. It was by God's grace that she had a giving heart. It was by God's grace that others were blessed because of all the clothes she made for others. She had died. Peter arrived before she was

buried. He saw all of the clothes. He took her lifeless hand in his and helped her sit up. By God's grace and through His almighty power, she was brought back to life. She was a humble person. She didn't expect to be rewarded or treated like a special person. She was content just to quietly go about her work.

Her name was Tabitha. You can be like Tabitha too. You can think of others instead of thinking of yourself. You can serve others instead of serving yourself. You can be like Tabitha by faithfully doing those things that the Lord wants us to do. We can help our neighbors. You can pray for those who need help. You can be a friend to the lonely or a companion to elderly people. You can help others not to get an award or famous or to get special thanks. Have Tabitha's heart filled with love for others. She did what she did because she loved Jesus and loved others. Serve the Lord by serving others. Living for Jesus means serving others. *"He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and He will reward him for what he has done."*
Proverbs 19:17

Prayer: *Dear Lord, please give me the heart of Tabitha that I may serve You by serving others. Amen.*

...See you in church.

Keep looking up because the Lord is always looking down – Psalm 121

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