



Dorcas, The Disciple

Acts 9:36-42

I. Dorcas



One disciple singled out (36)

- Not an elder . . . not notable teacher
- Not a man . . . **A woman**
 - Her influence not due to high office
 - Due to godly life, generous service

Good company:

Rahab

Mary

Hannah

Phoebe

Mary

Priscilla

FULL disciple (36)

- Not full of herself . . . (pride)
- Full of good works. Pr.31
- Full of charity. Mt.20
 - Who do we prefer to get credit?
 - Do good deed, let no one know?
- Constant (“she continually did” -NASB)

But be doers of the word,
and not hearers only,
deceiving yourselves – Ja.1:22

Sick disciple (37)

- No complaints
- The good suffer too

Precious in the sight of the LORD
is the death of His saints – Ps.116:15

- Martyrs' song
- God carefully watches over (is greatly concerned about) their death

Peter (38)

Two men

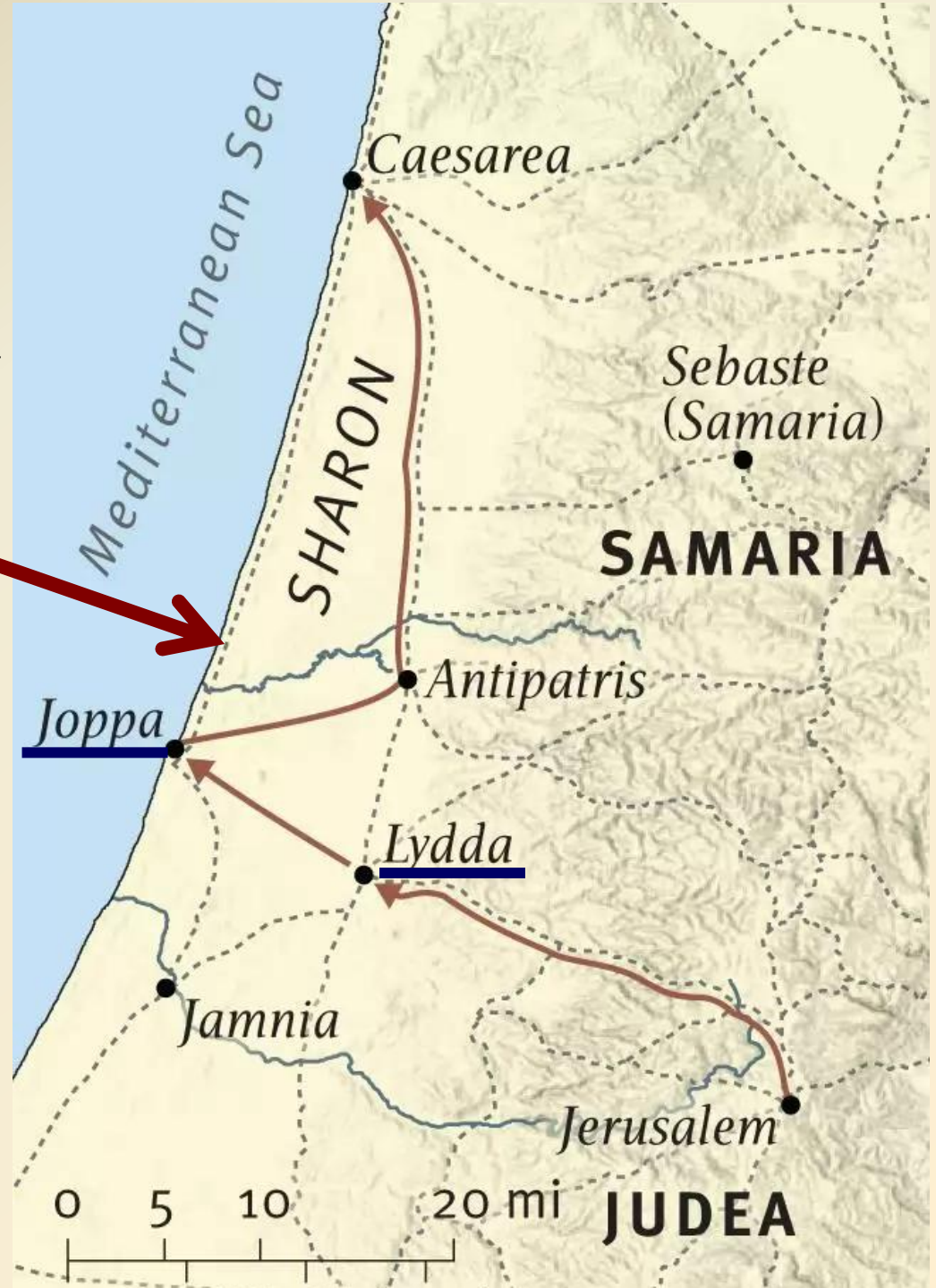
Come w/o delay

*Ac.9:35

*2 K.4

Faith, 1 Co.15

"Come to us"
(1 Sm.28)



Her legacy / epitaph (39)

- Others may not know our deeds...
- Ph.2:3-4

Her resurrection (40)

- Recalls Mk.5:41, “**Talitha qum**”

Her legacy / epitaph (39)

- Others may not know our deeds...
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Her resurrection (40)

- Recalls Mk.5:41, “**Tabitha qum**”

A present (41 . . . 39)

- O! to see their joy . . .
- What if she had been . . .

Trouble-maker?

Secret disciple?

Indifferent?

Gossip?

Purpose of miracles (42)

- Even her death led many to believe
Peter's journey (43)
- Poised to embark on strange journey

Joppa: house of
physical death

Caesarea: house
of spiritual death

Joppa: Jewish
Christians

Caesarea: Gentile
conversions

I. Dorcas

II. Death

Her eulogy:
full of good works, charity

Her example:
Full of good works, charity

- Giver.
- Faithful until death.
 - Never retired.
 - Alone? Not alone.

Her eulogy:
full of good works, charity

Her example:
Full of good works, charity

- Giver.
- Faithful until death.
- Works follow her. Rv.14:13
 - What will follow me?

I. Dorcas

II. Death

III. Demotion

Her body (37): no glory
(1 Co.15:43)

Her soul: (39) joy, rest, glory

Called back to earthly life (41)

- Returns to serve again
- Her greatest sacrifice: recalled
Lk.16, Lazarus

Lessons

1. A beautiful **life**. Dorcas . . .
 - a. Second woman mentioned after Acts 2. Sapphira – Ac.5.
 - b. Tabitha (Dorcas):
 - 1) **Gazelle** – a beautiful name.
 - 2) **Joppa** – ‘beautiful’ city.
 - 3) Led beautiful **life**.

Lessons

1. A beautiful life.
2. Learn from examples...to **become** an example. Bear good fruit.
3. If we are not full of good works, **other things** will fill that space.
4. Little things mean a lot.
5. If someone has blessed your spiritual growth, **tell** her.
6. Death is coming **soon** . . .
7. Our influence outlives us . . .