



## YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL!

What God says about what you say

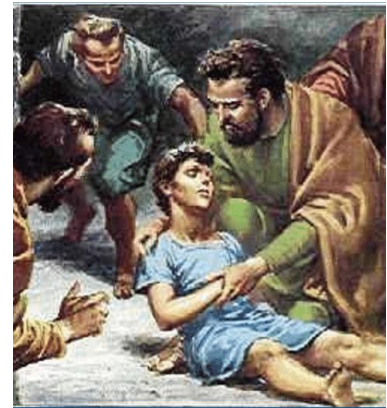
IN Favor video teaching series

### #12b. A follow up to “JESUS SPEAKS TO THE DEAD” – *THE DISCIPLES DID IT TOO!*

*Acts 9:36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor.<sup>37</sup> About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room.<sup>38</sup> Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"<sup>39</sup> Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.<sup>40</sup> Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up.<sup>41</sup> He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive.<sup>42</sup> This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.*



*Acts 20:7 On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight.<sup>8</sup> There were many lamps in the upstairs room where we were meeting.<sup>9</sup> Seated in a window was a young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep as Paul talked on and on. When he was sound asleep, he fell to the ground from the third story and was picked up dead.<sup>10</sup> Paul went down, threw himself on the young man and put his arms around him. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "He's alive!"<sup>11</sup> Then he went upstairs again and broke bread and ate. After talking until daylight, he left.<sup>12</sup> The people took the young man home alive and were greatly comforted.*



In the Aramaic churches who cherished the story of Tabitha, the similarity would not be missed. In the footsteps of his Master, and through the power of his Master (the *prayer* shows that), Peter worked the same miracle of “resurrection” ... All the miracles of raising from the dead are in a real sense “signs,” pointers to the one who has power even over death and is himself the resurrection and the life for all who believe and trust in him.<sup>NAC</sup>

The description that Peter “presented” her to them reminds one of the similar expression of how Elijah “gave” her son back to the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17:23) and how Jesus “gave” her son back to the widow of Nain (Luke 7:15). In these two instances the restoration of an only son to a destitute widow was indeed a gift, and Peter’s presentation of Dorcas alive was no less a gift to the widows of Joppa. As with the healing of Aeneas, so with the raising of Dorcas, the news spread quickly in Sharon’s Plain; and many believed in the Lord, in the *risen* Lord.<sup>NAC</sup>

Luke, the physician, confirmed the fact that Eutychus was dead. Paul went to the boy and took him into his arms (literally, the text says “he fell on” or “threw himself on” the boy). Paul addressed the concerned flock. “Don’t worry,” he said. Then, with those powerful Resurrection-reminiscent words, he added: “*He’s alive!*” Can you imagine the impact that moment would have had on the watching congregation? On Eutychus’s family? On Eutychus? The believers at Troas surely must have retold that story for years to come. <sup>LABC</sup>

THINK ABOUT IT ...



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