

## Two “sandwiched” returns (Luke 8.37-9.12)

Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and **returned** [*hupostrephō*]. The man from whom the demons **had gone** [*exerchomai*] begged that he might be with him; but Jesus **sent** him **away** [*apoluō*], saying, "**return** [*hupostrephō*] to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Now when Jesus **returned** [*hupostrephō*], **the crowd welcomed** [*apodechomai*, only 8.40/9.11 in Luke] **him**, for they were all waiting for him. Just then there came a man named Jairus, a leader of the synagogue. He fell at Jesus' feet and begged him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years old, who was dying.

As he went, the crowds pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years; and though she had spent all she had on physicians, no one could cure her. She came up behind him and touched the fringe of his clothes, and immediately her hemorrhage stopped. Then Jesus asked, "Who touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the crowds surround you and press in on you." But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; for I noticed that power **had gone** [*exerchomai*] out from me." When the woman saw that she could not remain hidden, she came trembling; and falling down before him, she declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; **go** [*poreuomai*] in peace."

While he was still speaking, someone came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the teacher any longer." When Jesus heard this, he replied, "Do not fear. Only believe, and she will be saved." When he came to the house, he did not allow anyone to enter with him, except Peter, John, and James, and the child's father and mother. They were all weeping and wailing for her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But he took her by the hand and called out, "Child, get up!" Her spirit **returned** [*epistrephō*], and she got up at once. Then he directed them to give her something to eat. Her parents were astounded; but he ordered them to tell no one what had happened.

Then Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. He said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money--not even an extra tunic. Whatever house you enter, stay there, and **leave** [*exerchomai*] from there. Wherever **they do not welcome** [*mē dechomai*] you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them." **They departed and went** [*exerchomai/dierchomai*] through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere.

Now Herod the ruler heard about all that had taken place, and he was perplexed, because it was said by some that John had been raised from the dead, by some that Elijah had appeared, and by others that one of the ancient prophets had arisen. Herod said, "John I beheaded; but who is this about whom I hear such things?" And he tried to see him.

On their **return** [*hupostrephō*] the apostles told Jesus all they had done. He took them with him and withdrew privately to a city called Bethsaida. When the crowds found out about it, they followed him; and **he welcomed** [*apodechomai*, only 8.40/9.11 in Luke] **them**, and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed to be cured. The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said, "**Send** the crowd **away** [*apoluō*], so that **they may go** [*poreuomai*] into the surrounding villages and countryside, to lodge and get provisions; for we are here in a deserted place."