



Tabitha

AN EXAMPLE OF
GRACE AND BEAUTY

ACTS 9:36 - 43



A Noteworthy Disciple

A Certain Disciple (v. 36)

- Whose story is preserved – cf. Mark 14:6-9
- “*a certain disciple*” (3x) – Acts 9:10, Ananias; Acts 16:1, Timothy
- Necessary/important – 1 Corinthians 12:22-24

A Noteworthy Disciple

“a certain female disciple” (YLT) (v. 36)

- *mathētria* – feminine form (only here)
- The Bible prizes women, and presents them as valuable, irreplaceable assets in the kingdom. (cf. **1 Peter 3:7; Romans 16:1-2**)
- **Tabitha shows the indispensable role and value of women in the church.**

A Picture of Grace and Beauty

Her Name (v. 36)

- *“Tabitha (Aramaic), which is translated Dorcas (Greek)”*
- Both translate – “Gazelle” – an emblem of grace and beauty.
- Names are not necessarily appropriate for all that wear them – cf. Acts 5:1 – *“Sapphira”* (beautiful/sapphire)
- **Tabitha wore the name well.**

A Picture of Grace and Beauty

A Worthy Name

- True Feminine Beauty (vv. 36, 39)
 - “a female disciple” – Romans 16:1 (“servant,” feminine); Galatians 2:20; 1 Timothy 2:11-15
 - “good works and charitable deeds” – Ephesians 2:10; Titus 3:8, 14; 2:2-3; 1 Timothy 5:9-10, 14; James 1:27; 2:15-17

A Picture of Grace and Beauty

A Worthy Name

- Beauty Made Conspicuous by its Absence (v. 39)
 - What is precious to God? – 1 Peter 3:4
 - Sought to be seen by God – Matthew 6:1-4
 - When gone, great boasting on Tabitha's behalf – (v. 39)

A Manifestation of the Power of Grace Behind Her

Her Resurrection Retold a Story of Her Past

- The Lord raised her – **Acts 9:34, 40-42**
- This was not her only resurrection – **Acts 9:36; John 5:24-25; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 15:10**

A Manifestation of the Power of Grace Behind Her

Her Resurrection Retold a Story of Her Past

Her Resurrection Anticipated a Story of Her Future

- She died again, but would be raised again to die no more
 - **1 Corinthians 15:20-23; John 5:29**

A Manifestation of the Power of Grace Behind Her

Her Resurrection Retold a Story of Her Past

Her Resurrection Anticipated a Story of Her Future

Her Resurrection Attested to a Story of Salvation

- Her life was used by Christ to influence people to follow Him – **Matthew 5:16**
- He used her death to do the same – **Acts 9:42; 3:13-16; 4:12**



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