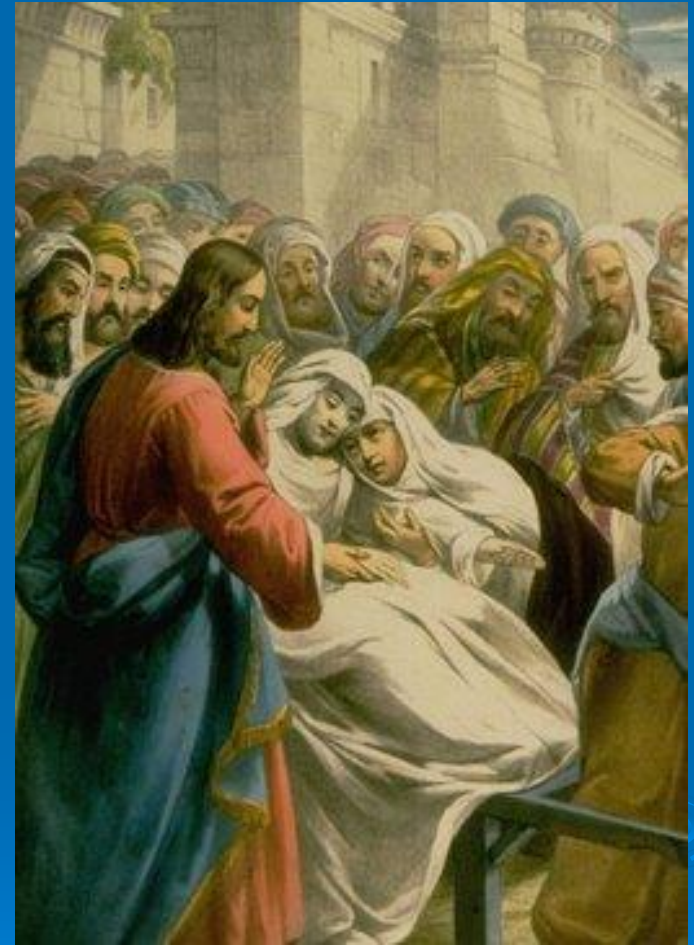


**Then fear came
upon all, and they
glorified God,
saying, “A great
prophet has risen
up among us”;
and, “God has
visited His
people.”**



Luke 7:16

**Studying the
puzzling
question:
Why did not the
people who
witnessed the
Lord's power,
continue with
Him to the end?**



Different reasons...One end! ⁽¹⁾

1. Feeding only on spiritual sparks:
 - Seeking always the emotional thrill
 - Praying only when we feeling like it
 - Mindful only of the gifts of the Spirit
 - Being subject to deception from the enemy



Different reasons...One end! ⁽²⁾

2. Stumbling at the cost of Discipleship:
- “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his **cross** daily, and follow Me”
Luke 9:23



Different reasons...One end! ⁽³⁾

3. Stumbling at the Unmet Expectations of God:

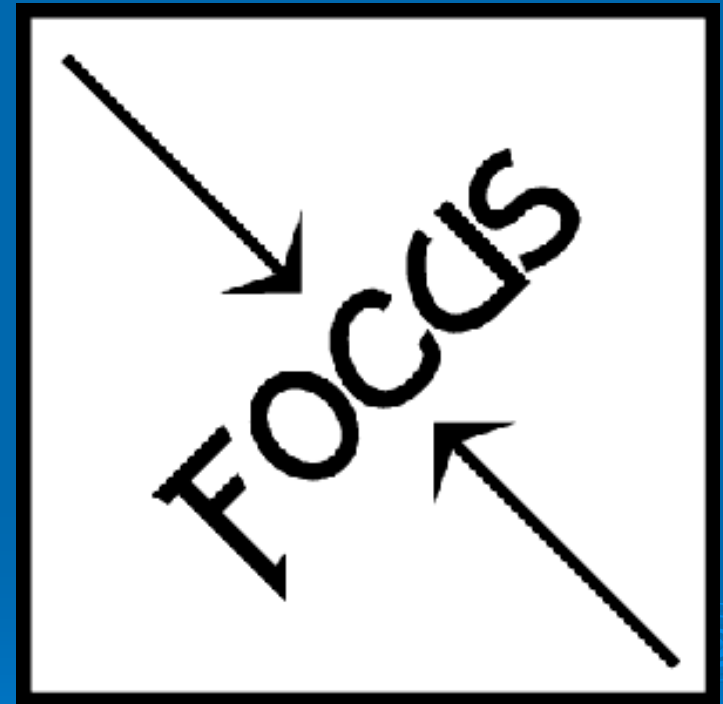
- Not only the Jews desire the Messiah to be an earthly king!
- The unanswered prayers, our sufferings, and the prosperity of the wicked are the famous examples



Different reasons...One end! ⁽⁴⁾

4. Falling into the traps of distractions:

- The worries about today and tomorrow
- The excessive busyness
- The desire to be rich
- The images, the sounds and the immersion in various pleasures



Different reasons...One end! ⁽⁵⁾

5. Journeying with a divided heart:

- Different goals
- Love of God and love of the world
- Different ways of living



Different reasons...One end! ⁽⁶⁾

6. Lacking
commitment and
discipline:
- “It was character that got us out of bed, commitment that moved us into action, and discipline that enabled us to follow through” *Ziglar*



Different reasons...One end! ⁽⁷⁾

7. Looking for shortcuts:

- The heresies of salvation in a moment and the cheap grace
- The outside rituals and the self-deceiving absolutions



Different reasons...One end! ⁽⁸⁾

8. The obstacle of our wisdom versus His:

- A good example is the Lord's teaching on communion in John 6
- What “makes sense” to us does not bind God in anyway



How we ought to conduct ourselves to continue to the end? ⁽¹⁾

1. It is one goal at all times

2. The perseverance of every day:

“And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force” *Matthew 11:12*



How we ought to conduct ourselves to continue to the end? ⁽²⁾

3. Make a new start every day
4. Meditate on the end...always
5. Walk with someone whom you trust “Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, one will lift up his companion”

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10

