

## **9:36 *Tabitha, Which Means Dorcas***

### **PROVIDENCE IN NAMING.**

CHRYSOSTOM: It was not without purpose that the writer informed us of the woman's name, but to show that her character matched her name—she was active and wakeful as a gazelle. For many names are bestowed by providence, as we have often said to you. "She was full," it says, "of good works." Not only of alms but also "of good works," both in general and of this good work in particular, "which Dorcas made while she was with them." What humility! Unlike us, all of them were together, and she worked and made clothes. HOMILIES ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 21.13

### **TRUE FAME.**

CHRYSOSTOM: If you want to be remembered and are anxious for true repute, imitate her, and build edifices like that, not going to expense on lifeless matter but displaying great generosity in regard to your fellow human beings. This is the remembrance that is worth admiring and brings great benefit. HOMILIES ON GENESIS 30.8.18

## **9:38 *Please Come to Us***

### **SO AS NOT TO TAKE AWAY FROM THE PREACHING.**

CHRYSOSTOM: Why did they wait until she was dead? Why was Peter not troubled before? They considered it unworthy, true believers as they were, to trouble the disciples about such matters and to take them away from their preaching. Indeed, this is why it mentions that the place was nearby. If what they were asking was of somewhat secondary importance, it was not then by way of going first. For she was a woman disciple. HOMILIES ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 21.19

## **9:39 *The Widows Wept***

### **ALMS DONE ON BEHALF OF THE DEAD.**

CHRYSOSTOM: Let us not concern ourselves with grave monuments or memorials. This is the greatest memorial: gather the widows around; tell them his name; ask them all to offer prayers and supplications on his behalf. This will overcome God; for although it was not done by the [dead] man himself, it is through

him that another is responsible for the almsgiving. This too is of the mercy of God. “Widows standing around and weeping” know how to rescue people not from the present death but from the death that is to come. Many have enjoyed the benefit of these alms performed by others on their behalf. For they found, if not perfect deliverance, at least some consolation. HOMILIES ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 21.20

### **9:40 *Tabitha, Rise***

#### **GOD TAKES THOUGHT FOR THEIR SALVATION.**

CHRYSOSTOM: They did not perform all their miracles with the same ease. This helped them. For truly God took thought not only for the salvation of others but also of their own. He who healed so many by his very shadow, how is it that now he has to do so much first? There are cases in which the faith of the applicants also assisted. This is the first dead person he has raised. Notice how he awakens her as if out of sleep. First, she opened her eyes; then, at the sight of Peter, she sat up; then, from his hand she received strength again. Look at the gain, look at the harvest, but note that it was not for display. That is why he sent them all outside, imitating his teacher also in this. HOMILIES ON THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 21.23

#### **THE MERITS OF MERCY.**

CYPRIAN: So powerful were the merits of mercy, so much did just works avail! She who had conferred upon suffering widows the assistance for living deserved to be recalled to life by the petition of widows. WORKS AND ALMSGIVING 6.26

### **9:41 Peter Presented Tabitha**