

The Power of the King—Part 2 (Matthew 8:5-13)

I. Jesus is Willing to Heal (vs. 5-7)

- a. **Capernaum** was situated on an important trade route on the Northwestern side of the Sea of Galilee
 - i. Jesus' Galilean headquarters, witness to many of His miracles, and home to Peter & Andrew, James & John, and Matthew (cf. Matt. 4:13; Luke 4:23; John 1:35-42; 2:12; 4:46-54)
- b. A centurion was commander over 100 (a century) of men; most likely Gentile and possibly Samaritan; a man of duty and character (cf. Matt. 27:54; Mark 15:39, 44-45; Luke 23:47; Acts 10:1; 22-26; 24:23; 27:1, 6, 11, 31, 43)
- c. The Synoptic Problem: Why are Matthew, Mark, and Luke so much alike, but also so different? (cf. Luke 7:1-10)
 - i. Messengers don't diminish intent (ambassadors)
 - ii. Matthew's language does not rule out a messenger: **proserchomai** (προσπορεύομαι) = "come to" "approaching" or "to have dealings with someone."
 - iii. Limited time and materials forced Gospel writers to concentrate on what was most important to them.
- d. The centurion again called Jesus **Lord** (*Kurios* / κύριος) = "Lord, master, sir"
- e. He was a "God-fearer" (cf. Ps. 115:11; Acts 13:16, 26; 16:14)
- f. He had genuine love and concern for his **servant/slave**, just like Jesus has for us: ***I will come and heal him***

II. Jesus' Authority Understood (vs 8-9)

- a. The centurion understood the negative impact Jesus' visit could have on Jesus, so he asked him to heal with just a **word**
- b. He understood authority as a centurion in the Roman Empire and saw Jesus as having the authority of God.

III. Jesus Marvels at Great Faith (v. 10)

- a. **Truly** or amen! (cf. Matt. 5:18, 26; 6:2, 5, 16; 8:10; 10:15, 23, 42; 11:11; 13:17; 16:28; 17:27; 18:3, 13, 18; 19:23, 28; Mark 3:28; 8:12; 9:1, 41; 10:15, 29; 11:23; 12:32, 43; 13:30; 14:9, 18, 25, 30; Luke 4:24; 12:37, 44; 18:17, 29; 21:3, 32; 23:43; John 1:51; 3:3, 5, 11; 4:18; 5:19, 24-25; 6:14, 26, 32, 47, 53; 8:31, 34, 51, 58; 10:1, 7; 12:24; 13:16, 20-21, 38; 14:12)
- b. **marveled** (*thaumazō* / θαυμάζω) = "to wonder, to be amazed, to marvel" (cf. Mark 6:6)
 - i. Marvels at this Gentile's faith compared to "little faith" of His own people (cf. Matt. 8:26; Mark 5:1-43; Luke 8:40-56; John 14:9)

IV. Jesus Warns Israel of Judgment (vs. 11-12)

- a. Gentiles will sit at The Eschatological Messianic Banquet with Jesus, **Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob** (cf. Ps. 102:15; Isa. 25:6-9; 60:3; 65:13-14; Mal. 1:11; Matt. 22:1-14; Luke 13:28-29; 14:15-24; 22:16; Rom. 4:11, 16; 8:14-17; Gal. 3:7-9, 26-29; Rev. 19:9)
- b. But many Jews will not only forfeit that blessing, they **will be cast into the outer darkness** of hell; not only separated from God, but also tormented with **weeping and gnashing of teeth!** (cf. Matt. 13:42, 50; 22:13; 24:51; 25:30; Luke 13:28)

V. Jesus' Authority & Power Displayed (v. 13)

- a. **it shall be done for you as you have believed** means that in the same way your faith is complete, I have healed your servant completely.
- b. Jesus' healing then and today is not based on the power of your faith; it is based on the power of the Person you put your faith in!!!
- c. So, without any fanfare, magical incantations, or even the laying on of hands, Jesus gives the **word** and the **centurion's servant** was miraculously and instantaneously **healed!!**