

## Understanding Authority

*Matthew 8:5-13 (Luke 7:1-10)*

### Understanding Authority

*“And when he heard concerning Jesus ...” Luke 7:3*

- What had he heard? cf. **Luke 1:3**
- a. Peter’s mother-in-law. (**Luke 4:38-39**)
- b. Man with a skin disease. (**Luke 5:12-13**)
- c. Paralyzed man. (**Luke 5:18-25**)
- d. Man with paralyzed hand. (**Luke 6:6-10**)
- e. Multitudes followed Jesus; Sermon on the Mount; Spoke with authority. (**Matthew 7:28-29**)

### Understanding Authority

Centurion’s servant near death. Luke 7:2ff

- **Matthew 8:6** *“Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering great pain.” NASB*
- **Matthew 8:6** *“Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented.” NKJV*

### Understanding Authority

Elders of the Jews sent.  
*“He is worthy that thou shouldst do this for him; For he loveth our nation, and himself built us our synagogue.” Luke 7:4-6*

Friends sent.  
*“Lord trouble not thyself; for I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say the word, and my servant shall be healed.” Luke 7:6-7*

<p>Matthew 8:7-10</p> <p>“And he saith unto him, I will come and heal him. 8 And the centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof; but <u>only say the word</u>, and my servant shall be healed.9 For I also am a man <u>under authority</u>, having under myself soldiers: and I say to this one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.10 And when Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so <u>great faith</u>, no, not in Israel.</p>	<p>• Luke 7:7-10</p> <p>“Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: <u>but say the word</u>, and my servant shall be healed.8 For I also am a man <u>set under authority</u>, having under myself soldiers: and I say to this one, Go, and he goeth; and to another Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.9 And when Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned and said unto the multitude that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so <u>great faith</u>, no, not in Israel.10 And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole.</p>
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## He Understood Authority

**Matthew 8:9; Luke 7:8**

Go, Come, Do This Or Do That

Matthew 8:8

"Lord, ... only **say the word**, and my servant shall be healed."

Luke 7:7

"Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but **say the word**, and my servant shall be healed."

**Great faith**

## Contrasts in Faith

**Matthew 8:10-12**

Centurion

Israel

- Great faith. **8:10**
- Gentiles included in the kingdom due to faith. **8:11**
- Eternal life. **8:12**
- Servant healed. **8:13**
- Little faith. **8:10**
- Excluded from the kingdom due to lack of faith. **8:11**
- Eternal death. **8:12**

## Authority

"From the meaning of leave or **permission**, or liberty of doing as one pleases, it passed to that of the ability or **strength** with which one is endued, then to that of the **power of authority, the right to exercise power ... or the power of rule** or government, the **power of one whose will and commands must be obeyed by others.**" (Vine)

## The RIGHTS Of Authority: Jesus

**Matthew 8:8-9 (Luke 7:7-8); 28:18**

- Power to **Rule.** **Matthew 8:8-9**  
*Christ (Psalms 110:1-2; Ephesians 1:20-23)*
- Power to **Bless.** **Matthew 8:8, 13; cf. Romans 13:3-4;**  
*Christ (John 17:2; cf. Acts 3:26)*
- Power to **Judge.** **Matthew 8:9**  
*Christ (John 19:10; 5:26-29; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Corinthians 5:10)*

Lesson: Our faith acknowledges that CHRIST possesses the right (power) to **rule**, to **bless** and to **judge** our submission to Him.

## SUBMISSION To Authority

**Matthew 8:8-9; Luke 7:7-8**

- **Some are unwilling to yield to authority ...**
  - Naaman. **2 Kings 5:1, 9-14**
  - King Saul. **1 Samuel 15:13-14, 19**
  - Israel. **Isaiah 30:8-11**
- **Some willingly yield ...** **John 9:6-7; Acts 26:19**

Lesson: Receive the blessings of faith from the authoritative one (CHRIST) only by submitting to His authority. **Matthew 8:13 (28:18-20; 7:21)**

## Faith And Authority

**Matthew 8:8-9; Luke 7:7-8**

- **Living by faith is respecting and obeying God's authority:**
  - Authority CONVEYED through word. **John 12:48-50**
  - Faith comes ONLY through His word. **Romans 10:17**
  - Saving faith is OBEDIENT to authority. **James 2:14-26**

Lesson: Difficulty over the subject of Bible authority shows a lack of faith in CHRIST who has All authority! (**Matthew 28:18; Colossians 3:17**)

## Faith And Authority

*Matthew 8:8-9; Luke 7:7-8*

- *Matthew 8:10 "I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel."*
- *"say the word," and my servant shall be healed.*

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## Understanding Authority

*"And when he heard concerning Jesus ..." Luke 7:3*

- What had he heard? cf. Luke 1:3
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## Faithless Or Believing?

*Matthew 8:12-13*

- God's plan of salvation.
  - True worship. *John 4:24*
  - Church organization and work.
  - Doctrinal purity. *Philippians 1:6-9 (2 John 9)*
  - Moral purity. *Philippians 4:8*
- Lesson:** Living by faith **CHOOSES** to submit to the authority of Christ in all things. (*Colossians 3:17; Matthew 7:21-23*)

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## Great Faith

*Matthew 8:12-13*

- Trust and submit to Christ's authority.
  - *How great is your faith?*
- Will you submit to the authority of Christ? *Colossians 3:17; Matthew 7:21*
  - *"... Say the word."*

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