

## 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

- Peter's mother-in-law. (Luke 4:38-39)
- Man with a skin disease. (Luke 5:12-13)
- Paralyzed man. (Luke 5:18-25)
- Man with paralyzed hand. (Luke 6:6-10)
- 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 7:4-5

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

Matthew 8:7-10

"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 only say the word, and my servant shall be healed. 9 For I also am a man under authority, 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 great faith, no, not in Israel."

Luke 7:7-10

"Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say the word, and my servant shall be healed. 8 For I also am a man set under authority, 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 great faith, no, not in Israel. 10 And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole."

## He Understood Authority

Matthew 8:9; Luke 7:8

Chief Captain

(Acts 21:31)

↑ Under Authority

Centurion

↓ Authority Over

100 Soldiers

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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."

Great faith

Luke 7:7

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

## 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. 8:11
- Servant healed. 8:13
- Little faith. 8:10
- Excluded from the kingdom due to lack of faith. 8:12
- 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. Galatians 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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