

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

A Message of Hope and Fulfillment For Those Longing For God

Amazing Insight, Incredible Faith

Luke 6: 46-49

Jesus has finished His discourse to his new disciples and the accompanying crowd. Now He goes back to Capernaum, the town on the North shore of the Sea of Galilee where He has made His temporary home and headquarters. Here the miracles begin again, and yet they still have no lasting fruit or sway with the people as a whole. Later Jesus laments, *...if the miracles had occurred in Sodom which have occurred in you, it would have remained unto this day. Nevertheless, I say to you that it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than it will be for you.*

The Centurion's Servant is Healed

I. Love Your Enemies: A Practical Demonstration

- A. Luke now records for us, not only some remarkable miracles, but events that underscore the teaching Jesus has given in most practical ways.
- B. The prevalent animosity and cultural dynamics of this event
 1. The person in need is a Roman Centurion, a military officer
 2. The Sanhedrin are sent for Jesus as a delegation
 3. Jesus starts out to go to the home of the Centurion
 4. He is intercepted by the Centurion and told to come no further
- C. Just say the Word and it will be enough!

II. Remarkable Perception on the Nature of Authority & the Person of Jesus

- A. This Roman officer truly understands the nature of authority: it is vested in a person because of their office or official stature.
- B. He has remarkable insight into the nature of disease and the Person of Jesus; he knows that Jesus has authority over disease and the supernatural spiritual realm.
- C. This insight is more than anyone in the nation of Israel thus far and truly astonishes Jesus!

III. Worthy or Not: It is Not a Matter of Worthiness

- A. *For this reason it is by faith, in order that it might be in accordance with grace, Romans 4:16*
- B. Politics, cultural diversity, class hatred, Jew or Gentile, worthy or not, the grace of healing was offered freely to all who had faith to believe.

It does not matter who you are or what you have done, if you are willing to turn to Jesus He will come to you. His grace and kindness are not based on your merit. He reaches out in love and without partiality to all who trust in Him. What is you need today?

When He had completed all His discourse in the hearing of the people, He went to Capernaum.

And a centurion's slave, who was highly regarded by him, was sick and about to die. When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders asking Him to come and save the life of his slave. When they came to Jesus, they earnestly implored Him, saying, "He is worthy for You to grant this to him; for he loves our nation and it was he who built us our synagogue." Now Jesus started on His way with them; and when He was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to Him, "Lord, do not trouble Yourself further, for I am not worthy for You to come under my roof; for this reason I did not even consider myself worthy to come to You, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man placed under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, 'Go!' and he goes, and to another, 'Come!' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this!' and he does it." Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled at him, and turned and said to the crowd that was following Him, "I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such great faith." When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

Luke 7: 1-10

