



Lesson 24 – The Centurion

Based on Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-17.

1) What was Jesus' second recorded miracle?

John 4:46-47 So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the _____ wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum. When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and _____ his son: for he was at the point of death.

2) What did Jesus do?

John 4:48-53 Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see _____ and _____, ye will not believe. The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die. Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way; thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way. And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told him, saying, Thy son _____. Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend. And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him. So the father knew that it was at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house.

Jesus was grieved that His own nation should require these outward signs of His Messiahship. Again and again He had marveled at their unbelief.

3) While Jesus was still in Capernaum who reached out to Him for help?

Matthew 8:5-6 And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a _____, beseeching him, And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously _____.

Among the Romans the servants were slaves, bought and sold in the market places, and treated with abuse and cruelty; but the centurion was tenderly attached to his servant, and greatly desired his recovery. He believed that Jesus could heal him. He had not seen the Saviour, but the reports he heard had inspired him with faith.

4) How did Luke record the event?

Luke 7:3-5 And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the _____ of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant. And when _____ came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this: For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.

The Centurion felt unworthy to come into the presence of Jesus, and he appealed to the Jewish elders to make request for the healing of his servant. They were acquainted with the Great Teacher, and would, *he thought*, know how to approach Him so as to win His favor.



5) What statement of faith did the Centurion make to Jesus?

Luke 7:6-8 Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, _____ not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof: Wherefore neither thought I myself _____ to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. For I also am a man set under _____, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

This Centurion ultimately said: "As I represent the power of Rome, and my soldiers recognize my authority as supreme, so do You represent the power of the Infinite God, and all created things obey Your word. You can command the disease to depart, and it shall obey You. You can summon Your heavenly messengers, and they shall impart healing virtue. Speak but the word, and my servant shall be healed."

6) How did Jesus reply?

Luke 7:9-10 When Jesus heard these things, he _____ at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great _____, no, not in Israel. And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

The Jewish elders who recommended the centurion to Christ had shown how far they were from possessing the spirit of the gospel. They did not recognize that our great need is our only claim on God's mercy. In their self-righteousness they commended the centurion because of the favor he had shown to "our nation." But the centurion said of himself, "I am not worthy." His heart had been touched by the grace of Christ. He saw his own unworthiness; yet he feared not to ask help. He trusted not to his own goodness; his argument was his great need. His faith took hold upon Christ in His true character. He did not believe in Him merely as a worker of miracles, but as the friend and Saviour of mankind.

7) How do we come to Christ?

Titus 3:5-7 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his _____ he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being _____ by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

When Satan tells you that you are a sinner, and cannot hope to receive blessing from God, tell him that Christ came into the world to save sinners. We have nothing to recommend us to God; but the plea that we may urge now and ever is our utterly helpless condition that makes His redeeming power a necessity. Renouncing all self-dependence, we may look to the cross of Calvary.

8) How did John describe Jesus?

John 1:9 That was the true _____, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

The Centurion did not wait to see whether the Jews themselves would receive the One who claimed to be their Messiah.



9) What words of warning did Jesus give to the Jews (and us)?

Matthew 8:11-12 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the _____ and _____, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven. But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be _____ and gnashing of teeth.

10) Why? _____

With joy Jesus looked forward to the gathering of souls from all nations to His kingdom. With deep sadness He pictured to the Jews the result of their rejection of His grace:

11) What did Jesus do the next day?

Luke 7:11-12 And it came to pass the day after, that he went into a city called _____; and many of his disciples went with him, and much people. Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man _____ out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.

More than twenty miles from Capernaum, on a tableland overlooking the wide, beautiful plain of Esdraelon, lay the village of Nain, and thither Jesus next bent His steps. Many of His disciples and others were with Him, and all along the way the people came, longing for His words of love and pity, bringing their sick for His healing, and ever with the hope that He who wielded such wondrous power would make Himself known as the King of Israel.

As they draw near, a funeral train is seen coming from the gates. With slow, sad steps it is proceeding to the place of burial. On an open bier carried in front is the body of the dead, and about it are the mourners, filling the air with their wailing cries. All the people of the town seem to have gathered to show their respect for the dead and their sympathy with the bereaved.

12) How did Jesus react to the grieving mother?

Luke 7:13-14 And when the Lord saw her, he had _____ on her, and said unto her, Weep not. And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, _____.

The young man opens his eyes. Jesus takes him by the hand and lifts him up. His gaze falls upon her who has been weeping beside him, and mother and son unite in a long, clinging, joyous embrace. The multitude look on in silence, as if spellbound.

13) How does the Bible record the villager's reaction?

Luke 7:16 And there came a _____ on all: and they glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

Hushed and reverent they stood for a little time, as if in the very presence of God.

14) What did Jesus remind His disciples just before His ascension off the Mount of Olives?

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, _____ power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

That power is not diminished by the lapse of years, nor exhausted by the ceaseless activity of His overflowing grace. To all who believe on Him He is still a living Saviour.

15) Who holds the power over death?

Revelation 1:18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for _____, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.



16) Why did Jesus have to die?

Hebrews 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might _____ him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

17) What did Paul tell us to do?

Ephesians 5:14 Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that _____, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

18) What has Jesus done for those of faith?

Colossians 1:13-14 Who hath _____ us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have _____ through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Satan cannot hold the dead in his grasp when the Son of God bids them live. He cannot hold in spiritual death one soul who in faith receives Christ's word of power.

It is all offered us in His word. If we receive the word, we have the deliverance.

19) What promise did Paul convey in Romans?

Romans 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead _____ in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

20) What promise did Paul convey in 1 Thessalonians?

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17 For the Lord himself shall descend from _____ with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the _____, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Can you see the Love from Jesus?

Would you like to be a partaker?

When is the time to look beyond ourselves?

