



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

LUKE 7:1-10

LESSON: JESUS HEALS A CENTURION'S SERVANT — July 31, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

Chapter 6 begins with **1.** Jesus' disciples picking wheat on the Sabbath, **2.** Jesus heals a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath, **3.** He selects His twelve disciples and calls them apostles, **4.** Jesus gives the Sermon on the Mount of the Beatitudes, **5.** Jesus teaches about loving your enemies.

CHAPTER 6:41-49

6. Jesus teaches about criticizing others:

6:41-42 a man with a large piece of wood in his eye trying to take a tiny bit of dust from his brother's eye. A small fault in another person is more noticeable to us than the large faults in ourselves. THE POINT IS: Often, we do not see our own faults. [I've got to blame someone else before I blame myself.]

7. Jesus teaches about fruit in people's lives:

6:43-45 A good tree will produce fruit that one can use. A bad tree produces fruit that one cannot use, for example poisonous fruits. Each fruit tree will produce its own kind of fruit. Jesus uses this as an example of good and bad people. THE POINT IS: A person may seem to be good. But the reality is in what he does. [Am I stepping on some toes?]

8. Jesus teaches about those who build

6:46-49 To call Jesus Lord is to accept His authority. If He is the Lord, then His people must obey Him, then you're building on a strong foundation, on a rock standing firm. But, some people, who call Him Lord, do not obey Him, then you're building without a foundation on sinking sand and will fall. God is the judge of our hearts and minds. THE POINT IS: To Him, our actions are more important to Him, than what we say. He wants us to obey Him. [It doesn't matter whose asking when it pertains to the Lord.]

LESSON: I. EVIDENCE OF GOODNESS LUKE 7:1-5

7:1 Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum.

When Jesus finished all His sayings and sermons, just outside of Capernaum, He heads back into Capernaum located on the northwest shore of Galilee. This seems to be Jesus' primary base place during His great Galilean ministry. This passage marks a turning point in Luke's account of Jesus' ministry because here He begins to include the Gentiles. Up to this point, Jesus has dealt exclusively with the Jews. He taught in the local synagogues, and it was the home of Peter, James, Andrew, John, and Matthew, the tax collector.

7:2 And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die. Here a centurion has a slave who no rights, became sick and was about to die. This centurion's slave was dear to him and he highly regarded him. This really made this centurion different, having numerous noble qualities, and also being a Roman Gentile soldier, in command of at least one hundred men.

7:3 And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant. The centurion heard about Jesus and sent some respected Jewish elders to ask Jesus to come and heal his slave. Luke's account differs from Matthew's. Luke says the centurion sent some religious leaders to approach Jesus. Matthew says that the centurion approached Jesus. Matthew also points out the servant's sickness—palsy (paralyzed). The fact is that when the centurion heard of Jesus, he believed. Great faith



PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

seeks God. He heard and apparently, he believed.

7:4 And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this:— The elders came to Jesus not as a last resort; they came at the request and or command of the centurion; and they also believed. They pleaded earnestly with Jesus because the time was short and the servant was dying, saying that this centurion, a Roman, was a man who deserved this kindness; to receive this favor by Jesus' hands. The elders are saying the centurion is worthy. They see his goodness. They placed his goodness before the Lord.

7:5 For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue. The elders even give reasons that this centurion loved the nation of Israel. He is a good friend of the Jewish race, and he himself had even built a synagogue for them. They gave specific evidence of the centurion's goodness. They talked more of what the centurion had done than what Jesus can do.

I. EVIDENCE OF FAITH LUKE 7:6-10

7:6 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, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof:— Jesus didn't hesitate, He went with the elders to the centurion's house to heal his servant, but just before they arrived at the house, the centurion sent friends to Jesus to stop Him. He didn't want Jesus to trouble Himself for he really felt unworthy for Jesus to enter under his roof. Could it be that Jews were not to enter into a Gentile's home because it would defile him? Or the centurion had second thought? No.

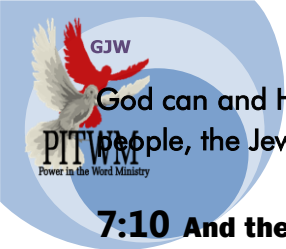
7:7 Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed. The soldier didn't think he was even worthy for Jesus to come to him, but being a man of authority, he just wanted Jesus to just say the word; give the order for his servant to be healed, for the centurion was a man who knew what authority meant.

7:8 For I also am a man set under authority, 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. So the real reason that the centurion didn't want Jesus to enter under his roof was he recognized Jesus' authority as "The Healer", the Son of God. He believed that Jesus had authority over diseases. He believed that there was power to cure in the Words of Jesus. If Jesus told the disease to go, it would go. Jesus did not need to be with or near the servant. He pictured the authority Jesus displayed as the same authority he uses over his own soldiers and servants who had to obey him. He didn't have to wait and see. He knew they would obey. The centurion speaks exactly the way a military man would speak. A soldier's way of thinking shines through his uniform:

- 1) When I give a command, I expect instant obedience.
- 2) I don't have to be personally present for my soldiers to obey.
- 3) You have unlimited power. Just say the word and the disease will disappear.

7:9 When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. Jesus marveled. Jesus marveled. Only twice has Jesus said to have marveled at people: 1) at the centurion, 2) and at the people in Nazareth because of their unbelief (Mk.6:6). What did Jesus marvel at? Why was He so astonished and amazed at the centurion? It was because of the man's great faith. The centurion wasn't Jewish, he was a Roman soldier. What an impact this man made upon Jesus!; that He turned to the people that followed and expressed that He had not found so great faith, not even in Israel. Jesus has the power to meet our needs, however, there is one pre-requisite: and that is faith! We must believe that Jesus Christ can meet our needs. Great faith believes that "He is and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him." Great faith is knowing and believing that





PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

God can and He will, and xxxing out the doubt. The centurion felt unworthy, but he believed and asked. His own people, the Jewish Pharisees didn't. They didn't even think He was the Son of God!

7:10 And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick. The elders that were sent to bring Jesus, returned to the house of the centurion and found the servant had been healed at Jesus' Word.

SUMMARY:

When Jesus finished all His sermons, He headed back to Capernaum. We find here a Roman centurion having a servant, a Jew whom he highly regarded. The servant became sick and was about to die. The centurion heard about Jesus and sent some respected Jewish elders to ask Jesus to come and heal his servant. The elders came to Jesus at the command of the centurion pleading earnestly. Although they were commanded by the Roman soldier, they considered this centurion worthy of receiving Jesus' help. They considered him worthy because he loved their nation. He was a good friend of the Jewish race, and that he himself had even built a synagogue for them (**7:1-5**).

Jesus went with the elders to the centurion's house to heal this servant, but before they could get there, the centurion sent friends to stop Jesus, saying don't trouble yourself, for he really felt unworthy for Jesus to enter under his roof. The centurion being a man of authority, considered Jesus as a man of authority. He told Jesus to just speak a Word, and he knew his servant would be healed; just as he would speak to his soldiers and servants and give a command, they would obey the authority of his spoken Word. He knew and believed that Jesus had power over disease, and that disease would obey at the Name of Jesus. Jesus marveled at what He had just heard and turned to the crowd saying, *"He had not found so great faith, no, not in Israel."* The elders that were sent to Jesus, returned alone to the house of the centurion and found the servant had been healed at Jesus' Word (**7:6-10**).