

“such great faith”

Luke 7:1-10

“such great faith”

Luke 7:1-6a

- 1** When Jesus had finished saying all this in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum.
- 2** There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die.

3 The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. **4** When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, “This man deserves to have you do this, **5** because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue.” **6** So Jesus went with them.

“such great faith”

Matthew 8:5-7

5 When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. **6** “Lord,” he said, “my servant lies at home paralyzed, suffering terribly.” **7** Jesus said to him, “I will go and heal him.”

“such great faith”

“The centurion was probably a member of Herod Antipas’s forces, which were organized in Roman fashion... Roman centurions referred to in the NT showed characteristics to be admired. This centurion showed genuine concern for his slave, and he was admired by the Jews, who spoke favorably of him even though he was a Gentile.”

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“such great faith”

“Matthew 8:3 says the Roman centurion visited Jesus himself, while Luke 7:3 says he sent Jewish elders to present his request to Jesus. In those days, dealing with a person’s messengers was considered the same as dealing with the one who had sent the message. Thus, in dealing with the messengers, Jesus was dealing with the centurion.”

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“such great faith”

Luke 6b-8

He was not far from the house when the centurion sent friends to say to him: “Lord, don’t trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. 7 That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed.

8 For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, ‘Go,’ and he goes; and that one, ‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

“such great faith”

“Luke wanted his readers to see in the present miracle a proof that Jesus is indeed the awaited Messiah. He possesses a unique authority. Even at a distance a single word brings instant healing. “Who is this one who possesses such authority?” The answer is clear. Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ, the Son of God, the Lord!”

Robert Stein

“such great faith”

Luke 7:9-10

9 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, “I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel.” **10** Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

“such great faith”

Matthew 8:10-12

10 When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, “Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.

11 I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

12 But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

“such great faith”

Isaiah 49:6

6 he says: “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

“such great faith”

Isaiah 55:5-9

5 Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations you do not know will come running to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor.”

6 Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

7 Let the wicked forsake his ways and the unrighteous his thoughts. Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. **8** “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. **9** “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

“such great faith”

“The Roman centurion didn’t come to Jesus, and he didn’t expect Jesus to come to him. Just as this officer did not need to be present to have his orders carried out, so Jesus didn’t need to be present to heal. The centurion’s faith was especially amazing because he was a Gentile who had not been brought up to know a loving God. Hence Jesus’ comment.”

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Applications

FAITH

Final Thoughts

“The central nature of the centurion story is the nature of the man’s faith.

His humility had allowed others to honor him as a worthy man, but standing before the presence of God’s messenger, he understood that God owed him nothing. He did not even feel worthy of being visited by God’s agent. Yet he also understood God’s authority to heal and His compassion.

Final Thoughts

“He believed Jesus could heal by a simple sovereign word even at a physical distance... And he knew that Jesus cared enough to do so.

Such faith and humility in approaching God’s power are what amaze Jesus. This passage calls us to possess a similar faith.”

Darrell Bock

Final Thoughts

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

Final Thoughts

Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — **9** not by works, so that no one can boast.