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Such Great Faith

Luke 7:1-10



Such Great Faith

“Now a centurion had a servant who was sick...” (7:2)

- Roman Army officer set over 100 men
- Foreign occupation force commander

“When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent...” (7:3)

- His faith came from hearing about the Word (cf. Rom. 10:17)
- His faith is demonstrated by action (cf. James 2:14-26)

Such Great Faith

“He is worthy to have you do this for him...” (7:4)

- Jewish elders vouch for a Gentile officer in an occupying army
- Concerned for the spiritual needs of those under his control
- Compassionate toward someone of lower social standing
- Too humble to “*presume*” to come to Jesus himself
 - Matthew’s account (*Matt. 8:5*) does not mention the “go-betweens”
 - *“He who acts through another does the act himself.”*

Such Great Faith

“I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.” (7:9)

- **such** - “so much in this (that) case.” [HELPS Word-studies]
- “so great, so much, so large” [Strong’s]
- “such **great** faith.” (NASB, NKJV, NIV)

*“...not even in Israel have I found such **great** faith.”*

Such Great Faith

He recognized **his own unworthiness**

- Despite his position and power
- He sent others to Jesus... again
- His message addressed Jesus as “Lord...”
- “...do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy...”

Such Great Faith

He recognized **the power of Jesus**

- Having heard, he believed Jesus could help his servant
- He believed Jesus did not have to touch to heal
- *“But say the word, and let my servant be healed.”*

Such Great Faith

He recognized **the authority of Jesus**

- He knew all about authority
- He had authority and recognized that Jesus had authority
- He could simply say “go”, “come”, or “do” ...
... and his men went, came and did
- He understood that Jesus could just “*say the word*”

I Such Great Faith

He recognized **the authority of Jesus**

“To presume to direct our own steps in matters of worship, teaching, or lifestyle is to reject the authority of God. To respect God’s word is not *legalism* but a gesture of humble obedience and faith in the one who authored that word.”

- Kyle Pope

“I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven”

Matt. 8:11



“It was a fine combination of humility, respect for authority, belief in the divinity of Jesus, trust in the power of God’s word, generosity and love toward fellow men, support of proper worship, and lack of ethnic or racial prejudice.”

– C.G. Caldwell



Such **Great** Faith

Do **you** recognize **your own unworthiness**?

Do **you** recognize **the power of Jesus**?

Do **you** recognize **the authority of Jesus**?

Do **you** have such **great** faith?

