

Matthew 8:5-13
"Jesus Heals Centurion's
Servant"

Deaf Church
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1. Introduction

- a. Matthew was former tax collector
- ability to read & write several languages
 - official Roman language was Latin
 - common commercial language was Greek
 - common religious language for the Jews was Hebrew
 - common spoken language was Aramaic

b. Centurion military leader in Roman army

- centurion came to Jesus in city of Capernaum next to Sea of Galilee
- he was very concerned about his servant sick in bed back home
- but he had heard about Jesus' miracles & healing ministry

2. Grievous Illness

a. Servant very sick in bed probably in great pain (8:6)

b. Roman centurion begged Jesus to heal his servant (8:5)

- Roman asked man (Jesus) of lower social standing for help
- Roman cared enough about his servant to do something
- * servant of no further use to Roman commander for work, BUT centurion wanted something better for his servant

3. Willing Healer

a. Jesus willing to come with Roman centurion (8:7)

- never done in Jewish society
- * Jew come with a Roman?

b. Jesus plans to heal servant

- no boundaries with Jesus with other people

4. Amazing Faith

- a. Centurion thinks that he is not worthy of Jesus (8:8)
 - he considers Jesus better than himself
- b. He thinks that Jesus only needs to say a word to heal his servant
- c. He compared his own example of authority
 - he ordered his soldiers & they did it
 - Jesus had authority to heal
 - * Mt 4:23-24 Jesus came as teacher & healer spread everywhere
 - * Mk 2:10-11 Son of Man has authority on earth
 - * John 4:50-54 Jesus gave His word & man's son healed long distance
- d. Jesus praised centurion for his great faith
 - no such "great faith in all Israel"
 - Jesus comment about Israel lacking faith included his own disciples
- e. Jesus comment of the coming kingdom
 - coming Gentile church (book of Eph)
 - Israel put in limbo for awhile (Rom chap 9-11)
- f. Jesus told the centurion
 - "Go your way." - go home
 - "Your request (healing) be done in same way he believed."

5. Amazing Healing

- a. Centurion sent home not knowing if servant healed
- b. He took Jesus at His word
- c. Centurion's servant healed same hour that centurion left Capernaum
- d. Centurion's faith confirmed when he got home ("same hour")