

A person with long dark hair, wearing a white robe with a dark sash, is walking away from the viewer towards a sunset over a body of water. The person's hair is blowing in the wind. The background shows a calm sea and distant hills under a warm, orange-hued sky.

TO KNOW AND FOLLOW

Jesus

A STUDY IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

A person with long dark hair, wearing a white robe, is walking away from the viewer on a body of water. The water is dark and choppy. In the background, there is a bright, hazy horizon with a sun or moon low on the right side, creating a lens flare effect. The overall tone is spiritual and serene.

Faith in Jesus

Oak Ridge Community Church
October 9th, 2016

The Faith of the Centurion

Luke 7:1-3

When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people who were listening, he entered Capernaum. There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant.

The Faith of the Centurion

Luke 7:4-6a

When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him,

“This man deserves to have you do this, because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue.”

So Jesus went with them.

The Faith of the Centurion

Luke 7:6b-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. That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. 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.”

The Faith of the Centurion

Luke 7:9-10

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." Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well.

A person with long hair, wearing a white robe, is walking away from the viewer on a beach. The sun is setting in the background, creating a warm, golden glow. The person's shadow is cast on the sand.

Setting

- After the sermon on the plain
- Jesus traveled into Capernaum
- A centurion's servant was sick and about to die
- The centurion heard of Jesus and asked him to come and heal his servant

Who is this centurion?

- Roman army officer in charge of 100 soldiers
- Not Jewish but a Gentile, nationality is unclear
 - He earned a significant amount of money
- He has a good relationship with Jewish community
- He believed that Jesus has the power to heal his servant
 - He exercised faith without actually having seen Jesus



Why did the centurion send elders of the Jews?

- Jesus is a Jew, the centurion is not
- In hopes of having a positive response from Jesus for his request
 - Elders of the Jews believed he deserved Jesus' help
 - Jesus reached across social boundaries

Who is worthy of Jesus?

- No one is worthy; faith is rewarded
- But later on the centurion realized that he is not worthy to have Jesus come to him and he sent his friends to say to Jesus
- (v.6b & 7) “Lord, don’t trouble yourself, for I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. That is why I did not even consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed.”

A person with long hair, wearing a white robe, is walking away from the viewer on a beach. The background is a soft, hazy sunset over the ocean, with the sun low on the horizon. The person's robe is flowing, and their hair is blowing in the wind.

Authority

- Centurion understands authority
- (v.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.”
 - Just like giving orders, say the word, e.g., “Be healed”
 - Jesus does not need to be physically present to bring about what he wills



Jesus was Amazed

- Mark 6:6 At his hometown's lack of faith
- (v.9) "When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him, and turning to the crowd following him, he said, (Attention! Attention!)

"I tell you, I have not found such great faith even in Israel."

- Jesus reacts emotionally. WOW!
- This type of faith should be emulated

A person with long dark hair, wearing a white robe with a dark sash, is walking away from the viewer on a sandy beach. They are walking towards the ocean, which is visible in the background. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The water is dark and has some white foam from waves breaking. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

The Miracle

- (v.10) Then the men who had been sent returned to the house and found the servant well
- He does not have to be present, speak, or touch to heal

Faith in Jesus (In Conclusion)

- Faith involves humility
- The focus is not on the miracle, but on our attitude toward Jesus
- No one is worthy; faith is rewarded

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Application

- Hebrews 4:16
- Allow Jesus to perform miracles in your life
- Mark 11:24