

The Spoken Word In Faith

Matt: 8:5-13 (GW) When Jesus went to Capernaum, a Roman army officer came to beg him for help. 6 The officer said, "Sir, my servant is lying at home paralyzed and in terrible pain." 7 Jesus said to him, "I'll come to heal him." 8 The officer responded, "Sir, I don't deserve to have you come into my house. But just give a command, and my servant will be healed. 9 As you know, I'm in a chain of command and have soldiers at my command. I tell one of them, 'Go!' and he goes, and another, 'Come!' and he comes. I tell my servant, 'Do this!' and he does it." 10 Jesus was amazed when he heard this. He said to those who were following him, "I can guarantee this truth: I haven't found faith as great as this in anyone in Israel. 11 I can guarantee that many will come from all over the world. They will eat with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. 12 The citizens of that kingdom will be thrown outside into the darkness. People will cry and be in extreme pain there. 13 Jesus told the officer, "Go! What you believed will be done for you." And at that moment the servant was healed.

This story shows the extent to which Jesus is willing to go to show compassion and bring out something good out of a bad situation. John 3:16 tells us that "whoever" believes in Jesus will not perish but have everlasting life.

Roman Army officer - the Romans were ruling over the Jews and oppressing them. They were not popular among the Jews at all.

Faith comes by hearing and I am sure this army captain would have heard a lot about Jesus and the miracles that Jesus was doing amongst the people and would have decided very much like that man with leprosy that I spoke about last week that if he could just get to Jesus his need could be met.

This alone was an act of faith for a Roman Army Officer to do, not thinking about what people would say about him being a Roman going to Jesus for help but willing to cut through it all for the sake of his servant who was sick.

You Have The Spoken Power Of Faith In You - I think many times we encounter situations where we have to stand in the gap for family and friends in times of desperation and need. The amazing difference now following the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is that we have the power to speak the word of faith and see amazing results.

In Vs 8 the centurion tells Jesus to only speak a word/ command. This army captain knew what authority was because he was a person of authority and he realised that Jesus based on all the countless miracles he had done and the following that he had must be a man with tremendous authority and so he tapped into that.

When we know the authority we have in the name of Jesus and the resurrection power of Jesus in us we too can say the word and see the miracle manifest right before our eyes. You have to know your authority in Christ Jesus first.

In Luke 9:1 Jesus calls his disciples and gives them power and authority over all demons and to cure or heal all diseases. Matthew records the same thing in Matt10:1. You and I carry the miraculous dynamite power of Jesus in us and when we use the authority given we will see the miracles happen.

Jesus said in John 14:12-14 (GW) *"I can guarantee this truth: Those who **believe in me** will do the things that I am doing. They will do even greater things because I am going to the Father. 13 I will do anything you ask the Father in my name so that the Father will be given glory because of the Son. 14 If you ask me to do something, I will do it.*

Jesus guarantees this truth: those who believe, put their trust in, put their confidence in Jesus where they come to a place of saying " I am not going to let go, I am not going to give up, I am going to stand my ground in faith, I am going to hold on no matter what, I am going to persist and endure in faith believing a change of attitude will change my behaviour from that of unbelief and fear of failure to hope and trust in Jesus. There is a guarantee that greater things will be accomplished when we don't give up.

Practical application: when you are faced with a hopeless situation and it seems like all is lost, Hallelujah! there is hope for those who are willing to put their trust and confidence and their faith in Jesus for a miracle. **Your miracle is in your mouth!** You have got to speak the word in faith. Jesus has said that He will do anything we ask the Father in His name because that brings glory to the Father through Jesus the Son.

What a promise! Are we asking in faith? Are we declaring the conviction of the truth of who Jesus is into our situation?

Faith is believing God for something that you cannot see at this present time but you have the belief and hope that what you have prayed for and believed for is coming to you. It's as if you have given momentum or fuel to your request that what you are believing for is coming to you.

We today are able to lay hands on those who are sick and they get healed. Jesus said that we will do the things that He did and even greater things. The Greek word translated as *greater* refers to "volume or the amount of." The greater works that Jesus said the believers would do actually refers to the amount of healings that would come through the church. Jesus was restricted to one place at a time. As His body, Christians everywhere can do a greater amount of works than Jesus did.

We end with this scripture in Mark 16:17-18 (GW) *"These are the miraculous signs that will accompany believers: They will use the power and authority of my name to force demons out of people. They will speak new languages. 18 They will pick up snakes, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them. They will place their hands on the sick and cure them."*

If you are a believer in Jesus Christ you have this authority and power. Who would like this ? Who would like to give their lives to Jesus now? Who would like to flow in this authority?