

Great Faith Hebrews 11:6

Learn the lessons of great faith from the only two people to whom Jesus said these words: “your faith is great”.

The Book of Matthew

- > Pharisees rule religiously
- > Romans rule militarily
- > Racial tension toward Gentiles

Matthew’s Gospel...

- > Most Jewish of all Gospels
- > Full of Hebraisms & OT references
- > Written to present Jesus as Messiah

Written to convince Jewish readers that Jesus is their long-awaited Messiah.

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
—Matthew 1:1

The Sermon on the Mount

For I say to you, that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.

—Matthew 5:20

The result was that when Jesus had finished these words, the multitudes were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

—Matthew 7:28-29

Matthew 8:5-13

And when He had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, entreating Him, and saying, “Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering great pain.” And He said to him, “I will come and heal him.”

—Matthew 8:5-7

But the centurion answered and said, “Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I, too, am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to this one, ‘Go!’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come!’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this!’ and he does it.”

—Matthew 8:8-9

Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled, and said to those who were following, “Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel.”

—Matthew 8:10

And I say to you, that many shall come from east and west ... And Jesus said to the centurion, "Go your way; let it be done to you as you have believed." And the servant was healed that very hour.
 —Matthew 8:11-13

The Authority of Jesus Christ

- Matthew 7:28-29
- Matthew 8:9
- Matthew 28:18-19

Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..."

Matthew 15:21-28

And Jesus went away from there, and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman came out from that region, and began to cry out, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed."
 —Matthew 15:21-22

Matthew 1:1
 The book of the genealogy
 of Jesus Christ,
 the son of David,
 the son of Abraham.

But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came to Him and kept asking Him, saying, "Send her away, for she is shouting out after us." But He answered and said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and began to bow down before Him, saying, "Lord, help me!"
 —Matthew 15:23-25

And He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." But she said, "Yes, Lord; but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from their masters' table."
 —Matthew 15:26-27

Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, your faith is great; be it done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed at once.
 —Matthew 15:28

Review

Roman Centurion	Canaanite Woman
Gentile	Gentile
Roman	Canaanite
Loved one in great need	Loved one in great need
Slave/Son	Daughter
Paralyzed	Demonized
Faith Insight: Authority	Faith Insight: Sufficiency

Faith/Believe

"aman" (Hebrew)

"pisteuo" (Greek)

Realization of the strength/ability of the object of faith.

Reliance upon the object of faith.

“Great Faith”

Roman Centurion - Authority

Canaanite Woman - Sufficiency

Great Faith in The Year Ahead

- We all have the capacity to believe.
- Our capacity to believe is not hindered by background, race, gender, social/economic status or personal situation.
- The Lord evaluates the quality of faith.
- Great Faithers expand their capacity to believe.
- Great Faithers realize and rely upon the great authority of the Lord.
- Great Faithers realize and rely upon the great sufficiency of the Lord.