



# PITWM VERSE BY VERSE

## Luke 7:1-10

### LESSON: HEALING FAITH – April 3, 2016

#### HISTORY:

**Chapter 6 Verses 37-38** <sup>1</sup>A forgiving spirit demonstrates that a person has received God's forgiveness. Jesus used the picture of measuring grain in a basket to ensure the full amount. If we are critical rather than compassionate, we will also receive criticism. If we treat others generously, graciously, and compassionately, however, these qualities will come back to us in full measure. We are to love others, not judge them.

**Verses 39-40** <sup>2</sup>A blind leader cannot see the way to go. The only future for that leader and those people who follow him is to fall into the ditch. Probably Jesus spoke this against some of the Pharisees. Jesus compared them to blind leaders who led other blind people. They did not know the truth about God. So, they could not lead people to God. <sup>3</sup>Make sure you're following the right teachers and leaders, because you will go no farther than they do. Look for leaders who will show you more about faith and whose guidance you can trust.

**Verses 41-42** <sup>4</sup>Jesus uses humour to teach a serious lesson. Here is a man with a large piece of wood in his eye. And he tries to take a tiny bit of dust from his brother's eye. A small fault in another person is more noticeable to us than the large faults in ourselves. Often we do not see our own faults.

**Verses 43-45** A good tree will produce fruit that one can use. A bad tree will produce fruit that one cannot use, *for example* poisonous fruits. Each fruit tree will produce its own kind of fruit. Jesus uses this as an example of good and bad people. A person may seem to be good. But the reality is in what he does.

**Verses 46-49** To call Jesus Lord is to accept His authority. If He is the Lord then His people must obey Him. But some people who call Him Lord do not obey Him. God is the judge of our hearts and minds. To Him, our actions are more important than what we say. He wants us to obey Him.

#### I. EVIDENCE OF GOODNESS Lk.7:1-5

**7:1 Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum.**

When Jesus finished all His sermons He headed back to Capernaum. Capernaum seems to be Jesus' primary resting place during His great Galilean ministry. It was located on the northwest shore of Galilee. This passage marks a turning point in Luke's account of Jesus' ministry. Up to this point, Jesus has dealt exclusively with the Jews; here He begins to include the Gentiles. He taught in the local synagogues and it was the home of Peter, James, Andrew, John, and Matthew, the tax collector.

**7:2 And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.** We find here a centurion having a slave whom he highly regarded. This slave became sick and was about to die. A centurion was a Roman soldier, a Gentile in command of at least one hundred men. There are about ten centurions mentioned

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.nltblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/LAB-Study-Luke.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/luke4-9-im-lbw.htm>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.nltblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/LAB-Study-Luke.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/luke4-9-im-lbw.htm>

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in the New Testament and each is presented in a good light. A slave had no rights, but, to this centurion, this slave was dear to him which made him (the centurion) different, having numerous noble qualities.

**7:3 And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant.** The centurion heard about Jesus and sent some respected Jewish elders to ask Jesus to come and heal his slave. Luke's account differs from Matthew's. Luke says the centurion sent some religious leaders to approach Jesus. Matthew says that the centurion approached Jesus. The fact is that when the centurion heard of Jesus, he believed. Great faith seeks God. Apparently, he was a believer; he had a synagogue built for them, and he loved the Jewish nation (v.5).

**7:4 And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this:—** The elders came to Jesus not as a last resort; they came at the request and or command of the centurion; and they also believed. They pleaded earnestly with Jesus because the time was short and the servant was dying, saying that this centurion, a Roman, was a man who deserved this kindness; this favor by Jesus's hands.

**7:5 For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.** The reason was that this centurion loved this nation; he is a good friend of the Jewish race, and that he himself had even built a synagogue for them.

## II. EVIDENCE OF FAITH Lk.7:6-10

**7:6 Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldst enter under my roof:—** Jesus didn't hesitate, He went with the elders to the centurion's house to heal his servant, but just before they arrived at the house, the centurion sent friends to Jesus to stop Him. He didn't want Jesus to trouble Himself for he really felt unworthy for Jesus to enter under his roof.

**7:7 Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.** The soldier didn't think he was even worthy for Jesus to come to him, but being a man of authority, he just wanted Jesus to just say a word; give the order for his servant to be healed, for the centurion was a man who knew what authority was.

**7:8 For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.** The centurion's own <sup>5</sup>soldiers and servants had to obey him. He believed that Jesus had authority over diseases. He believed that there was power to cure in the words of Jesus. If Jesus told the disease to go, it would go. Jesus did not need to be with the servant. <sup>6</sup>The centurion speaks exactly the way a military man would speak. A soldier's way of thinking shines through his uniform:

1) When I give a command, I expect instant obedience.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.easyenglish.info/bible-commentary/luke4-9-im-lbw.htm>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.keepbelieving.com/sermon/how-faith-works/>

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- 2) I don't have to be personally present for my soldiers to obey.
- 3) You have unlimited power. Just say the word and the disease will disappear.

**7:9** When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and turned him about, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. Jesus marveled. Only twice is Jesus said to have marveled at people: 1) at the centurion, 2) at the people in Nazareth because of their unbelief (Mk.6:6). What did Jesus marvel at? Why was He so astonished and amazed at the centurion? It was because of the man's great faith. The centurion wasn't Jewish, but a Roman soldier. What an impact this man made upon Jesus!; that He turned to the people that followed and expressed that He had not found so great faith, not even in Israel. Jesus has the power to meet our needs, however, there is one pre-requisite: faith! We must believe that Jesus Christ can meet our needs. Great faith believes that He is and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Great faith is knowing and believing that God can and He will, and xxxing out the doubt. The centurion felt unworthy, but he believed and asked.

**7:10** And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick. The elders that were sent to bring Jesus, returned to the house of the centurion and found the servant had been healed at Jesus' Word.

## SUMMARY:

When Jesus finished all His sermons He headed back to Capernaum. We find here a Roman centurion having a servant, a Jew whom he highly regarded. The servant became sick and was about to die. The centurion heard about Jesus and sent some respected Jewish elders to ask Jesus to come and heal his servant. The elders came to Jesus at the command of the centurion pleading earnestly. Although they were commanded by the Roman soldier, they considered this centurion worthy of receiving Jesus' help. They considered him worthy because he loved this nation; a good friend of the Jewish race, and that he himself had even built a synagogue for them (**7:1-5**).

Jesus went with the elders to the centurion's house to heal this servant, but before they could get there, the centurion sent friends to stop Jesus, saying don't trouble yourself, for he really felt unworthy for Jesus to enter under his roof. The centurion being a man of authority, considered Jesus as a man of authority; just speak a Word, and he knew his servant would be healed; just as he would speak to his soldiers and servants and give a command, they would obey the authority of his spoken Word. He knew Jesus has power over disease and it would obey. Jesus marveled at what He had just heard and turned to the crowd saying, "*He had not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*" The elders that were sent to Jesus, returned alone to the house of the centurion and found the servant had been healed at Jesus' Word (**7:6-10**).