

Insights from Luke

#20: “Just Say the Word”

Luke 7:1-10

Luke 7:1

“¹ When He had completed all His discourse in the hearing of the people, He went to Capernaum.”

Luke 10:15

“¹⁵ And you, Capernaum, will not be exalted to heaven, will you? You will be brought down to Hades!”

Luke 7:1-10

“¹ When He had completed all His discourse in the hearing of the people, He went to Capernaum. ² And a centurion’s slave, who was highly regarded by him, was sick and about to die. ³ When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders asking Him to come and save the life of his slave. ⁴ When they came to Jesus, they earnestly implored Him, saying, ‘He is worthy for You to grant this to him; ⁵ for he loves our nation and it was he who built us our synagogue.’”

⁶ Now Jesus started on His way with them; and when He was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to Him, ‘Lord, do not trouble Yourself further, for I am not worthy for You to come under my roof; ⁷ for this reason I did not even consider myself worthy to come to You, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁸ For I also am a man placed 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.’

⁹ Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled at him, and turned and said to the crowd that was following Him, ‘I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such great faith.’ ¹⁰ When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.’”

Luke 7:2

² And a centurion's slave, who was highly regarded by him, was sick and about to die.”

“Centurion”

“Highly regarded”

Matthew 8:6

“⁶ ...and saying, ‘Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, fearfully tormented.’”

Luke 7:3-4

“³ When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders asking Him to come and save the life of his slave. ⁴ When they came to Jesus, they earnestly implored Him, saying, ‘He is worthy for You to grant this to him.’”

“Heard about Jesus”

Luke 7:5-6

“⁵ ‘...for he loves our nation and it was he who built us our synagogue.’ ⁶ Now Jesus started on His way with them; and when He was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to Him, ‘Lord, do not trouble Yourself further, for I am not worthy for You to come under my roof....’”

William Barclay, *The Gospel of Luke*, p. 101:

The Romans called the Jews a filthy race; they spoke of Judaism as a barbarous superstition; they spoke of the Jewish hatred of humankind; they accused the Jews of worshipping an ass's head and annually sacrificing a Gentile stranger to their God.

Luke 7:7-8

“⁷ ...for this reason I did not even consider myself worthy to come to You, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁸ For I also am a man placed 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.””

Just say the word

Luke 7:9-10

“⁹ Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled at him, and turned and said to the crowd that was following Him, ‘I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such great faith.’ ¹⁰ When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.”

J.C. Ryle, *Expository Thoughts on the Gospels: Luke*

A greater miracle of healing than this, is nowhere recorded in the Gospels. Without even seeing the sufferer, without touch of hand or look of eye, our Lord restores health to a dying man by a single word. He speaks, and the sick man is cured. He commands, and the disease departs.

**Good works from a
human vantage point
can save no one!**

**Unworthiness is the
beginning of salvation
by grace and not works.**

**Christians should enjoy God's
grace by never forgetting their
unworthiness.**

**Faith is belief
as expressed through trust.**