

Great Faith - continued

It is not meet to take the children's bread and cast it to the dogs. But she said, Yea, Lord: for even the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.
- Matthew 15:25-27 -

Finally, great faith glorifies Jesus as God: she recognized the Lord's power to heal and she worshipped him. She was not like many who ignored and refused the obvious power and divinity of Jesus (Jn. 7:48). She accepted Jesus' divine nature.

We too must accept and confess Jesus as the divine Son of God in order to be saved (John 20:30-31; Romans 10:9-10).

Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it done unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was healed from that hour.
- Matthew 15:28 -

When we have a "great faith," it is in a "great God" who can do great things (Titus 2:13). He answers prayer, he providentially controls all things, and he passes out divine justice and judgment to all who need it. He also gives blessings today through his Son Jesus like he did long ago for the Syro-Phoenician woman. - Chris Reeves

Sentence Sermons

- A man is known by the company he keeps and doesn't keep.
- Stumbling blocks, when viewed properly, are turned into stepping stones.
- When God tells us to do something, he also gives us the help to do it.
- Our changing world needs a changeless Christ.
- We must obey God rather than men.

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ
290 Warfield Blvd.
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website
wbcoc.org

Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!
For More Information Call
(931) 647-1324

Published and Edited By
Chris Reeves
(615) 389-3250
chrisreevesmail@gmail.com
TheGoodTeacher.com

THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

December 27, 2020



For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Great Is Your Faith: Lessons from the Syro-Phoenician Woman

Faith is necessary for salvation. The author of Hebrews wrote: *“and without faith it is impossible to be well-pleasing unto him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that seek after him”* (Hebrews 11:6).

But, not just any faith is necessary. We don't need a little faith (Matthew 8:26; 14:28ff) or a dead faith (James 2:19,26). We need an active, obedient faith.

Jesus, on occasion, would single out a person for their “great faith”. He did this with the Roman centurion in Matthew 8:15 and with the Syro-Phoenician woman in Matthew 15:28. What can we learn from the Syro-Phoenician woman about “great faith” (Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30)? Let us answer that question using Matthew's account.

And Jesus went out thence, and withdrew into the parts of Tyre and Sidon
- Matthew 15:21 -

First, great faith can be found where you least expect it: she was a Gentile from the north. She was not like many of the Jews who were unbelievers (John 1:11; 7:5; 12:42). She was

willing to come to Jesus and give him a chance to help her.

When you look at the conversions in the New Testament, you find that many were from among those least expected, like Simon the sorcerer in Acts 8 and Saul of Tarsus in Acts 9.

What can we learn from this? We need to keep evangelizing the lost because “great faith” can still be found today, even among the unexpected (Mark 16:15-16). We also learn, as Christians, we need to stand out and be different from the world with a “great faith” (Philippians 2:15). This is how we can be a light to the world.

And behold, a Canaanitish woman came out from those borders, and cried, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a demon
- Matthew 15:22 -

Second, great faith is accompanied by other virtues: she loved her daughter and showed humility. She humbly recognized her need for the Lord's mercy unlike other Jews who were proud (John 5:40-44). She did not let pride stand in the way of getting good things for your daughter.

What can we learn from this? We will be saved only when we humbly recognize

our dependence upon the Lord and come to him in obedience (Ephesians 2:4; Titus 3:5; James 4:6-10; 1 Peter 5:6-7). Humility brings blessings.

But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But he answered and said, I was not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. But she came and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.
- Matthew 15:23-24 -

Third, great faith is persistent: she kept asking and seeking until she got what she came for. She was not like many who gave up. She persisted through obstacles. She did not walk away in unbelief (John 6:66).

What can we learn from this? We must be diligent in our search for truth and right. We must seek until we find, knock until it is opened to us, and ask until we are given (Matthew 7:7-8; Luke 13:24). We must be persistent in prayer (1 Thessalonians 5:17), assembling (Hebrews 10:24-25), growth (2 Peter 1:5ff), Christian living (1 Corinthians 15:58; Gal. 6:9), etc.

But she came and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. And he answered and said,