

JESUS' POWER OVER DISEASE: PARALYSIS
(Matthew 8:5-13)

- I. The Centurion's APPEAL (Matt. 8:5-6)
 - A. This occurred in CAPERNAUM (cf. 4:13)
 - B. He was approached by a CENTURION (cf. Luke 7:2-10)
 - 1. A GENTILE
 - 2. A COMMANDER of an OCCUPYING military force
 - 3. A FRIEND to the JEWS
 - C. He was told of a SERVANT who was SUFFERING
 - 1. Demonstrates COMPASSION for him
 - 2. Described him as PARALYZED and in great PAIN
 - 3. Implied desire for HEALING without REQUESTING it
- II. Jesus' REPLY (Matt. 8:7)
 - A. Jesus may have VOLUNTEERED to COME and HEAL him
 - B. Jesus may have been ASKING WHY the Centurion wanted JESUS' help
- III. The Centurion's UNDERSTANDING (Matt. 8:8-9)
 - A. He did not expect Jesus to COME to heal his servant
 - 1. Did not want Jesus to violate Jewish CUSTOM and become ceremonially UNCLEAR

2. Acknowledged Jesus SUPERIOR RANK
- B. He believed that Jesus could heal with a WORD at a DISTANCE
 - C. He understood how AUTHORITY works
 1. He could order SOLDIERS or SLAVES to carry out HIS instructions
 2. He was ACCOUNTABLE to HIGHER authority
 3. He understood that Jesus was the REPRESENTATIVE of God on earth and acted on God's AUTHORITY
- IV. Jesus' EXPANDED Response (Matt. 8:10-13)
- A. Jesus expressed WONDER at the man's profound FAITH
 - B. Jesus stated that as yet NO ONE in ISRAEL had expressed such GREAT FAITH
 1. Jesus healed without RITUAL, or MAGIC, or AID
 2. Jesus' word was EFFECTIVE because it was GOD'S word
 - C. Jesus declared that MANY GENTILES would be INCLUDED in His Kingdom
 - D. Jesus indicated that MANY JEWS would be EXCLUDED from His Kingdom
 - E. People enter the Kingdom through FAITH, not natural BIRTH
 - F. Jesus proclaimed the HEALING of the Centurion's servant