



August 13, 2023

Conversations

Authority

Matthew 8

5 When He had entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to Him, appealing to Him, 6 “Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly.” 7 And He said to him, “I will come and heal him.” 8 But the centurion replied, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” 10 When Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who followed Him, “Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.

Authority – 1. the power of authority (influence) and of right (privilege); 2. the power of rule or government (the power of him whose will and commands must be submitted to by others and obeyed)

Gleanings from the Centurion

1) Seeking Authority

Luke 7

2 Now a centurion had a servant who was sick and at the point of death, who was highly valued by him. 3 When the centurion heard about Jesus

The centurion sought Jesus out and came to Him. On a strictly human level, it would be perfectly within the rights of the centurion to issue the order that Jesus be found, and be commanded to come to him. Jesus was, after all, a citizen of Roman-occupied territory. But the Roman commander doesn't find Jesus and order that He be brought to him. Instead, the centurion seeks Jesus out in order to come to Him... **Greg Allen**

Commentary

Proverbs 12

15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,
but a wise man listens to advice.

Hosea 4

6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge

Proverbs 2

2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; 3 yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, 4 if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures

2) Grow in Authority

Proverbs 9

9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.

Acts 8

30 So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” 31 And he said, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to come up and sit with him.

Proverbs 19

20 Listen to advice and accept instruction, that you may gain wisdom in the future.

3) Honoring Authority

Honor – to esteem; to value; to revere

Ephesians 6

1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 “Honor your father and mother”

Exodus 20

12 Honor your father and mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

1 Peter 2

17 Honor everyone.

Philippians 2

3b... but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.

NOTES