

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

Standing on the Essence of God - -

Romans 8:32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?

Matthew 7:28-29 When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were **amazed** (**EKPLESSO**) at His teaching; ²⁹ for He was teaching them as *one* having authority, and not as their **scribes**.

Amazed - ἐκπλήσσω - **EKPLESSO** – “*To be overwhelmed.*” Literally, *to be struck out of one’s senses*

The teaching of the Word of God is designed to *set you in motion; to affect your will and your desires; it should move you to act.*

Scribes – γραμματεῖς - **GRAMMATEUS** – “*Scholars or experts*” in the Law

- ✚ The Lord taught authoritatively.
- ✚ The scholars majored in minutia; doctrinal hair-splitting.
- ✚ The Lord’s teaching stirred the soul of His hearers while the scribes’ teaching was dull and academic – it failed to move the soul into action!

The teaching of the Word should stir your soul – get you thinking – get you to apply its precepts and give momentum to your life!

Matthew 8:1-10 When Jesus came down from the mountain, large crowds followed Him.

Many people began to walk with the Lord as a result of His teaching.

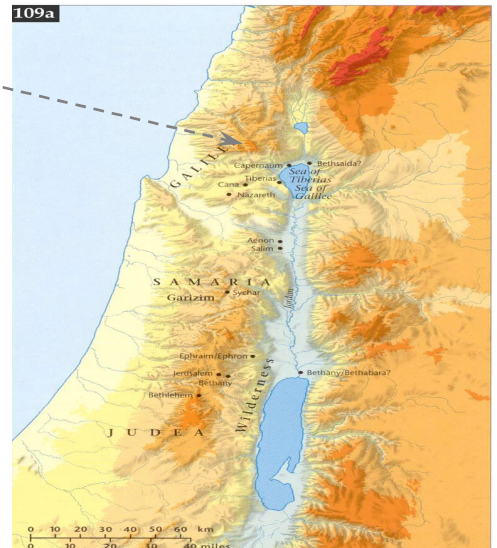
POD – The teaching of God’s Word is designed to produce results in the life of the believer.

POD – As the results are produced, the believer is motivated to follow his Savior.

Luke 7:1-10 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**.

THE CENTURION

- An officer in charge of 100 soldiers
- Promoted from within the ranks
- Paid about 16 times what the normal legionnaire would make
 - > Wealthy
 - > High social status
 - > Professional



Highly regarded – ἔντιμος - ENTIMOS – “High esteem”

Sick and about to die - μέλλω + τελευτάω - ELLO plus TELEUTAO – death was imminent and inevitable!

³ When he heard about Jesus, he sent some Jewish elders asking Him to come and save the life of his slave.

1. ἀκούω – “He heard”
2. “He believed”
3. ἀποστέλλω – “He sent”

The Centurion had a great faith in the Lord without ever seeing Him.

The spiritual life CANNOT be executed apart from faith.

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."

↓
Give the command! Issue the decree!
A faith that knows “all things are possible” ←

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."

Slave – “A person sold into the service of another”

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."

Matthew 8:5-12 And when Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, imploring Him, ⁶ and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, fearfully tormented." ⁷ Jesus said to him, "**I will come and heal him.**" ⁸ But the centurion said, "Lord, I am not worthy for You to come under my roof, but just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ "For I also am a man 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." ¹⁰ Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled and said to those who were following, "**Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel.** ¹¹ "I say to you that many will come from east and west, and recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven; ¹² but the sons of the kingdom will be cast out into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

¹⁰ When those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

- > Where is your faith in light of what is communicated about the Centurion?
- > When the Lord communicates DO THIS - - are you willing to DO IT?

Faith sets the LORD JESUS CHRIST in motion!

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.