

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



*glimpses
of glory*

MESSAGE: SHAWN HOELSCH

MUSIC: RITA BAIRD

DATE: MAY 14, 2023

Faith in The Authority and Life-Giving Power of Jesus Luke 7:1-17

Remember...

What's happening in the Gospel of Luke? - *There's a growing tension and hatred towards Jesus.*

Last Week - *Our faith is the foundation of our lives! (vv. 6:46-49)*

What took place in Nazareth (Ch. 4)? - *Hatred towards Jesus because of the mention of 2 stories...*

Naaman, The Syrian Officer

The Widow at Zaraheth

The Heart of the Centurion Models the Right Response to Jesus: Humility & Recognition (vv. 1-10)

1. The words of the centurion's messengers highlight their ignorance. (vv. 1-5)

1 After he had finished all his sayings in the hearing of the people, he entered Capernaum. 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, he sent to him elders of the Jews, asking him to come and heal his servant. 4 And when they came to Jesus, they pleaded with him earnestly, saying, "He is worthy to have you do this for him, 5 for he loves our nation, and he is the one who built us our synagogue."

2. In humility, the centurion understands the power and authority of Jesus. (vv. 6-8)

*6 And Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "Lord, do not trouble yourself, for **I am not worthy** to have you come under my roof. 7 Therefore I did not presume to come to you. **But say the word**, and let my servant be healed. 8 **For I too am a man set 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."*

3. His heart - not his station or accomplishments - is what impresses Jesus. (vv. 9-10)

*9 When Jesus heard these things, **he marveled at him**, and turning to the crowd that followed him, said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such **faith**." 10 And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant well.*

Jesus Holds Authority Over Not Just Illness – but Over Life & Death Itself (vv. 11-15)

11 Soon afterward he went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. **12** As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, **and she was a widow**, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. **13** And when the Lord saw her, **he had compassion on her** and said to her, “Do not weep.” **14** Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, **“Young man, I say to you, arise.”** **15** And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother.

Prophecy Fulfilled & Eyes Opened: God Is Here! (vv. 16-17)

16 Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, **“A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!”** **17** And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

Fulfillment of Zechariah's Prophecy (Luke 1:68)

*Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people*

Reflection/Discussion

1. Compare the centurion's humility and faith in Jesus's power and authority to your own. In what ways is the world “puffing you up” like the elders did the centurion? What are you doing to maintain a humble view of yourself and a reverent view of God?
2. We all put our faith in someone/something. Can you honestly say that your faith is in Jesus Christ as the Giver of Life?
 - If yes, praise and thank God for that gift!
 - If no, write down a list of the questions or doubts you have that keep you from doing so. Compare that list to the character and power of Jesus shown, so far, in Luke.

SONGS

“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY”

“O PRAISE HIM”

“AS THE DEER”

“CENTER”

Altamont Music Pastor: Shawn Hoelsch (shawn@vbc.online)

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 55,929.58

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,985.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$ 645,339.51

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$ 702,715.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:

(Last Entry – 05/09) \$ 75,415.34

Note: Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please deposit the envelopes in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!