

***A Woman  
Blessed for  
Her Faith***

**Mark 7:24-30**



# Introduction



- **Often we take faith & privileges for granted**
  - Old Adage, *“Familiarity Breeds Contempt”*
  - As Gentile Christians, in particular, we must not lose sight of the grace we’ve received
- **Israelites received privileges long before**
  - Covenant relationship with God
  - Blessings that accompany that relationship
  - Blessings available to all coming to God

**A Woman, Blessed By Her Faith  
In God, Mark 7:24-30**

# The Narrative, **Mark 7:24-30**

- **Jesus searched for privacy**

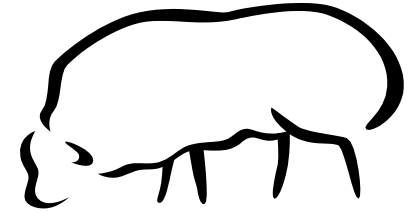
- He traveled from Bethsaida, to Capernaum region of Tyre/Sidon, (40 miles) **vs. 24**
- Sought privacy, probably to rest, **vs. 24**



- **A Woman Requests a miracle**

- Daughter possessed by unclean spirit, **vs. 25**
- Greek woman, Syro-Phoenician by birth, **vs.26**
- Falls to His feet, pleads to take the spirit away
- Calls Him, ***“Lord, Son of David!”***, **Matt. 15:22**

# Narrative



- **Jesus' refusal**

- **Matt. 15:24**, *"I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."*
- **Vs. 27**, *"Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs."*
  - Promises to Israel to be filled first
    - **Micah 3:1, Malachi 3:1**, Messiah is coming

- **Jesus suggests future expansion**

- Limited Commission
  - **Matt. 10:5-6**
- Later expanded to the whole world
  - **Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8; Acts 10**



# Narrative

- **She Responds**

- **Mark 7:28**, *“Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children’s crumbs”*
- She acknowledged His right to refuse her
- She’s happy with a small portion



- **He admires her faith**

- **Mark 7:29-30**, *“go thy way; the devil is gone out (instantly) of thy daughter. And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.”*
- **Matt. 15:28**, *“Oh, woman, great is your faith!”*



# Observation # 1

## Other Gentiles blessed by her faith

- The centurion at Capernaum, **Matt. 8:5-13**
  - **Vs. 10**, *“I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel.”*
- Cornelius, first Gentile convert, **Acts 10**

**Woman and Centurion  
ate crumbs “*under the  
table*”, Cornelius  
“sat at the table”**

# Observation #2

- **We (Gentile Christians) are now blessed by this woman's faith...We are no longer...**
  - Without Christ
  - Aliens from the commonwealth of Israel
  - Strangers from the covenants of promise
  - Without hope & without God in this world
  - **Ephesians 2:12**, *“ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.”*



# Observation #3

- **We (Gentile Christians) are now blessed by this woman's faith...We are...**
  - Brought near by the blood of Christ, **Eph. 2:13**
  - Reconciled as one body in Christ, **Eph. 2:14-17**
  - Able to access the one Spirit, **Eph. 2:18**
  - Fellow citizens with saints and members of the household of God, **Eph. 2:19-22**

**We can now sit at His table!**

**Matthew 8:11, "...many will come from east and west, and sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of Heaven"**

# Are We Making Good Use of Our Blessings?

- **Not if we refuse to come to the table**
  - Not obey the gospel
  - All are invited, **Mark 16:15-16**
- **Not if we refuse to eat at the table**
  - Through disobedience & neglect
  - Mistake Jews & others, **Matt. 8:11-12; 21:43**
- **Not if we eat only the crumbs**
  - Through apathy and neglect
  - Like Sardis & Laodicea, **Rev. 3:1-2, 14-19**
    - *“works not perfect....”“Luke warm”*



# Final Observation

- **Because of her faith, we are reminded of...**
  - The way we were before Christ
  - The blessings we now enjoy in Christ
- **Do we have the same kind of faith?**
  - One that persists even when turned away
  - One willing to accept the smallest blessings

**Romans 11:21-22**, *“if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: or thou also shalt be cut off.*

