The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Luke 7:3-4 (http://www.theberean.org)



Luke 7:3-4

(3) And after hearing about Jesus, he sent the elders of the Jews to beseech Him to come and heal his servant. (4) And after coming to Jesus, they besought Him earnestly, saying that he was worthy to whom He should grant this.

A Faithful Version

The centurion gives the messengers the responsibility to go to Jesus, not to sorcerers or pagan gods—Heis the One the centurion seeks for help. The messengers are to seek Him earnestly and formally on his behalf. The centurion's approach to Christ is not casual but committed and respectful. He desires a blessing, and to secure it, he knows he has to demonstrate earnest commitment.

To convey the centurion's faithful attitude, the messengers have to present the centurion's request carefully and accurately to Jesus to heal his servant. The centurion does not ask in a general or indirect way that would be unclear; the messengers are to be detailed and clear. They present the centurion's request enthusiastically and promptly, as the Greek text indicates. They were committed and faithful in carrying out their responsibility.

They set an excellent example for members of God's church today. When we are asked to pray for people who are suffering from illness or injury, are we as diligent and earnest as these messengers were? When we ask others to pray for us, are we as faithful as the centurion was?

The messengers, in appealing to Christ to come and heal the servant, highly praise the centurion (<u>Luke 7:4-5</u>). The centurion's attitude shows that he was a man who loved those under his authority. In addition, he loved the Jews, which was quite unusual since the Romans did not normally even like the Jews. His <u>love</u> for the Jews was more than just talk; it was combined with action. He gave generously of his resources to build a synagogue for them in Capernaum.

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Likewise, <u>God</u> expects love to flow from His church in generous and caring actions. He sets the example for us in that God demonstrates His love by giving. He gave us the greatest gift of all: <u>Jesus Christ</u>, our Savior (<u>John 3:16</u>). Never has there been a greater love.

Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see:

The Miracles of Jesus Christ: Healing a Centurion's Servant (Part One)

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