The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Matthew 15:28 (http://www.theberean.org)



Matthew 15:28

(28) Then Jesus answered and said to her, 'O woman, great *is* your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.' And her daughter was healed from that very hour. *New King James Version*

The woman receives a two-fold reward: She is commended for her great <u>faith</u> and receives <u>healing</u> for her child. Christ shows that He approves of her boldness and honors her faith, which—alongwith her persistence and humility—earnher blessings. She keeps knocking at the door of opportunity until it is opened.

From this, we should learn a lesson about <u>prayer</u>. Initially, she seems to be rejected and denied access to Christ's power, but then, having seen her faith, <u>Jesus</u> opens His <u>grace</u> to her. Christ commends her for "great" faith. She takes the lowliest place, but her faith in Christ earns her His highest praise.

Her faith is tested by His silence and then by His discouraging reply, but it is necessary for Him to see the strength of her faith, as well as for her to realize what it takes to follow Him. He is pleased with what He finds in her.

Ultimately, the Lord sustains our faith and gives us <u>hope</u> to strengthen it (<u>Psalm 138:3</u>). Her faith was built on hope of good things to come, and what she had heard of Christ and seen of His power motivated her. Her unparalleled trust in Him proves that it is not blood lineage through <u>Abraham</u> that identifies his children in the faith, but faith itself. Although a Gentile by birth, she would become a spiritual Israelite through belief and conviction (<u>Galatians 6:16</u>). The strength of her faith is manifested in what she overcame—not physical obstacles, but mental and emotional barriers.

- Martin G. Collins

To learn more, see: <u>The Miracles of Jesus Christ: Exorcising a Syro-Phoenician (Part Two)</u> The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Matthew 15:28 (http://www.theberean.org)

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