

Matthew Chapter 8

Matthew 8:1

When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.

After Jesus' sermon on the mountain many believers followed Him. Usually when the sermon on the mountain is spoken on, it collaborates on the Beatitudes; on the blessings. The sermon on the mountain consisted of more than the blessings, but what to do to receive the blessings. Jesus instructed the believers that they were the salt of the earth indicating that they were the world's seasoning, to make it tolerable. Although the world is full of darkness, we as Christians should be the light that the world would see. His teaching also consisted of informing us that He did not come to destroy the law, but He was to fulfill the law. He instructed us to forgive those that may have wronged us. Many times we want to pray and hold grudges against people that have wronged us, but Jesus said, forgive. He taught on adultery and divorce, the sin of swearing, loving your enemies and to pray for them. Giving with the right motive, how to pray, how to fast, setting our affection on

things above, judging with our spiritual eye. The natural eyes looks on the outward appearance whereas when we look with our spiritual eyes we see into the spiritual realm what is the real cause of the circumstance. Instructions in how to treat people the way we desire to be treated. How to judge a false prophet. How one can be gifted and yet miss Heaven and enter into Hell by being gifted and not yielding themselves completely to the Lord. He gave much more than the Blessing Beatitudes.

The people that heard Him were astonished at His doctrine. When He came down from the mountain a large number of people followed Him.

Matthew 8:2

And behold there came a leper and worshipped him, saying Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. According to the law of Moses, to be leprous was to be ceremonially unclean. Leprosy was looked upon by the Jews as a particular mark of God's displeasure. Jesus healing the leper was to show them that He came to turn away the wrath of

God by taking away sin, began with the cure of the leper because the disease was supposed to have come from God, so it was to be removed by God, showing God's love and forgiveness towards man.

Matthew 8:3

And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Jesus cleansing the leper indicated that not only did God love and forgive, but He had been given power and the authority from God to heal. They had heard how the prophets of old had healed, but they had not seen it demonstrated. Many had received healing in the days of the prophets, but leprosy was never immediately healed. Jesus spoke and diseases had to obey His command instantly. Jesus can speak to every circumstance and it has to obey.



Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

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Matthew 8:4

And Jesus said unto him, See thou tell no man: but go thy way, show thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded for a testimony unto them.

After Jesus healed the leper, He kept the commandments that were instructed by Moses when someone had leprosy.

(Leviticus 14:3-4) And the priest shall go forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and behold if the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper; then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop.

Jesus didn't let His authority overrule the law that had been given. He instructed the man to go and show himself to the priest, keeping the law He had stated, "He didn't come to destroy the law, but to fulfill the law." First of all, lepers weren't allowed in the camp, but because this was the day the man had been ordained to be healed nothing could stop him from being blessed. Secondly, the leper came worshipping the Lord, he wasn't having a pity party, Oh, woe to me! He came praising the Lord, believing that he was going to receive his healing. In order to receive anything from the Lord, we must believe that He will do what He has promised He would do.

(Therefore, I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when you pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them- Mark 11: 24)

The leper came worshipping Jesus, then he made his request, and he received what he was believing for.

Matthew 8:5

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him.

The centurion was a Roman military officer that believed that Jesus could and would heal his servant. Beseeching, meaning he was crying out for the Lord's help. Sometimes in order to receive a breakthrough in prayer we have to cry out sometime in anguish. The Centurion didn't care about what the people may have been saying or what they were thinking, he needed help and he knew the only one that could help him was Jesus.

Matthew 8:6

And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

The centurion didn't go to the religious leaders, he went where there was power. The religious leaders knew the scriptures, but they didn't have power manifesting through them. He went to Jesus by prayer and supplication, making his request known to the Lord.

Matthew 8:7

And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

Jesus didn't start asking the centurion questions whether the man was a believer, how long had he been saved or what type of sin he may have committed. All Jesus said I will come and heal him. Only through Jesus can one be healed. Jesus works through doctors and medication when He does not heal divinely, but it all comes through and by Jesus. When we begin to recognize that's its Jesus, healing will come forth according to His word. I am the Lord that healeth thee.

Matthew 8:8

The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

Although the centurion was a Roman soldier and the Jews were under subjection to them, this man believed that Jesus could heal his servant by speaking the word. Jesus showed us an example of how we should treat our enemies. The Romans were enemies of the Jews, but Jesus didn't look at him or his servant as being an enemy, but someone that was in need of His help.

Matthew 8:9

For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, go and he goeth; and to another come, and he cometh; and to my servant, do this and he doeth it.

The centurion soldier spoke highly of his servant, he had much respect for his servant, it gave him the faith that Jesus could heal his servant. Although the centurion was a leader, he humbled himself and went to Jesus for help. Whether they be spiritual or natural positions, we have to respect each other and not think more of ourselves than we should. It's not us that is doing the work, but it's the Holy Spirit and God's wisdom that enable us to accomplish what we do. We need to humble ourselves and listen and respect others. Ungodly pride will destroy us spiritually.

Matthew 8:10

When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed: Verily, I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no not in Israel.

Jesus saying could have meant

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in the city or He could have been saying He had not seen such faith in the children of Israel. Either way He marveled at the faith the centurion had. The centurion was not of the lineage of Abraham, but he had Abraham's faith. According to the word of God without faith we cannot please God. Sometimes sinners receive what they ask for faster than saints because many times, saints pray in doubt whereas the religious Christian will believe and receive.

Matthew 8:11

And I say unto you, that many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus is speaking of the Gentiles gathering through the preaching of the gospel. Just as the centurion was not a Jew, but because of his faith in Jesus, the Christ, there would be many like him coming from the east and west entering in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 8:12

But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into the outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Referring to the chosen which is the Jews. If they don't come to the realization that Jesus is the Christ, they will miss their inheritance, as well as those that say they believe in Jesus, but yet they will not follow the teaching of Jesus.

Matthew 8:13

And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou has believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

When the centurion went to Jesus, he believed that he was going to

receive an answer to his prayer. His prayer was answered according to his faith. When we pray according to the word of God; His word says that we shall have what we have petition. Look in the word of God to confirm what you're praying for is according to God's will.

Matthew 8:14

And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever.

Although Peter was a disciple of Jesus and was walking in the anointing, his wife had a fever, she was sick in her body. The question is, why didn't Peter lay hands on her to be healed or was it for an appointed time that Jesus was going to touch her body and heal her?

Many times we may lay hands on people and they don't recover, it could be its not for us to lay hands at that time because God has set an appointed time He will touch the individual without the laying of hands for deliverance.

Matthew 8:15

And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them.

Whatever the infirmity was, it had to leave when Jesus touched her. He didn't question how long she had been sick, or what were her symptoms, He just touched her and the fever left.

Matthew 8:16

When the evening was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils (demons): and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick.

A demon differs from a devil.

Satan is the devil, there is only one devil, but many demons which would be fallen angels. Although Satan has power, the power he possesses was given to him By God. Many people were brought to Jesus that had been attacked by Satanic spirits, including sickness. Jesus cast them out with His word. This proves a point that God nor Jesus places sickness on His people because He want to punish them or prove a point to them. Many have been misled by the lie that God places sickness on His people. If He places sickness on us, then heal us, this would be division. Sickness comes from us mistreating ourselves as well as Satanic attacks.

Matthew 8:17

That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sickness.

Since Jesus took all sickness and infirmities why would He place them on us, since He has already taken them? Took is a past tense, so every sickness, disease, infirmity was nailed to the cross, we can stand on God's word for healing. His word is His promise, His promise is we are healed by His stripes.

Matthew 8:18

Now when Jesus saw great multitude about him, he gave commandments to depart unto the other side.

We should purpose in our heart whatever Jesus tells us to do, to do it with simplicity and excellence. Jesus wants us to depart from slothfulness, and go to another level in serving and worshipping Him. Let us stop using excuses for the reason why we're not following Jesus the way He has instructed us.

Matthew 8:19

And a certain scribe came and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest.

Scribes were better known as scholars, one that studied and expounded the law; they were usually men of ungodly character, but yet he had dedicated himself to follow Jesus spiritually and publicly.

He wasn't afraid of what people was going to say or think of him. During this time, the scribe was placing his life on the line to follow Jesus. The High Priest and other Jewish leaders was upset with Jesus' teaching and they were ready to kill him and everyone that was followers of his teaching. The scribe had dedicated himself to the Lord and as he dedicated himself, we too, must be just as dedicated to follow the doctrine of Jesus. Too many people are teaching that it doesn't take all that to be a Christian. It takes whatever the Bible has instructed us to do as followers of Jesus Christ.

Matthew 8:20

And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.

Jesus was letting His followers know by following Him they too would have to depend on the charity of others for housing and such things they would have need of. He was the son of God, but He didn't have place to call His, and by following Him, they too would be like Him. As followers of Jesus, we must count the cost of being His followers. Disciples are rejected of ungodly people as well as religious people. We suffer in different areas because of our stand for Jesus and His doctrine. In our suffering we can be a blessing to others, because as we suffer with Him, we will also reign with Him

in earth as well as heaven.

Matthew 8:21

And another of his disciples said unto him, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.

As disciples, some of us are making excuses the reason why we're not doing what we supposed to do. The bible teaches us "To thou on self be true". Nothing can stop us from doing what we want to do, it's when we don't want to when we give in to excuses. As we really commit ourselves to the Lord, we will be more readily to follow Him in whatever He instruct us to do.

Matthew 8:22

But Jesus said unto him, Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead.

It wasn't that the disciple had ask a question that wasn't a need, but it wasn't the time. Some scholars think that the disciples father wasn't sick, dying nor dead, others think he was only aged and wasn't expected to live long and the son wanted to make sure he was there to receive what he was going to inherit. He was placing his wants before his spirituality.

Jesus saw that the disciples request wasn't a need, but "I don't want to do it". Jesus instructed him "To let the dead, bury their dead". The disciples loyalty was towards himself and not Jesus. As disciples we can't place nothing or anyone before Jesus. If we make Jesus the center of our life, he will see to it that everything that pertains to us will be in order. Jesus wants first place in our hearts.

Matthew 8:23

And when he was entered into a ship, his disciples followed him.

A true disciples will follow Jesus no matter what they may have to encounter because they know whatever it may be Jesus can take care of it. The path God has given us is straight and narrow, very limited. It's self denial, love others when they don't deserve to be loved.

It's not talking the scriptures, but living the scriptures.

Matthew 8:24

And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, inso-much that the ship was covered with the waves, but he was asleep.

While crossing over to the other side, a storm arose. The majority of the time when Jesus instruct us to do something, a storm will begin to arise in our lives. The adversary will see whether or not we will ride the storm or fall in the storm. During our storm experiences our finances become limited, our relationship with our spouse may be in an uproar, our children begin to act out, sickness may attack our bodies, family and friends will talk about you, lie on you, but if Jesus is on board the vessel, we can weather the storm and come out in victory.

Matthew 8:25

And his disciples came to him, and awoke him, saying, Lord, save us; we perish.

Too many times the reason Jesus haven't come to our rescue is because we haven't called him. He said "Call upon me, and I will answer thee". We look at the storm, and we try to fight the storm ourselves instead seeking Jesus, waiting for His instructions.

Matthew 8:26

And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was great calm.

Storms can blow stuff in our lives that will hurt us to the core, storms can bring things that we thought was dead in our lives, but only to find out they were resurrected. If we're leaning on our own strength and not Jesus, the storms of life will send us to depression,

strokes, heart attacks, stomach ulcers, divorce, bitterness, hatred and sooner or later psychiatric care as well as spiritual death. If we call on Jesus, He will answer prayer.

Matthew 8:27

But the men marveled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea they obey him.

Jesus has control over the elements that comes into our lives to destroy us. No weapon formed against us shall prosper when Jesus is the captain of the vessel.

Matthew 8:28

And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.

Non-christians as well as religious society don't teach or believe that people can be demon possessed. Demons are fallen angels who influence people to go against the commandments of God, they influence people to do wicked and evil things. Just as God lives within a born-again Christian, Satan lives within people. Just as God manifest Himself through his people, Satan manifest himself through his people.

Matthew 8:29

And, behold they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? Art thou come hither to torment us before the time?

Jesus didn't introduce Himself to the evil spirits, but they knew who He was when He confronted the demons. They had people fearful, but when they saw the anointing they had to come subject. Then and now when demonic spirits see the anointing in an individual, they must come subject. Nowhere in the Bible it tell us to be fearful.

Matthew 8:30

And there was a good way off from them a herd of many swine feeding.

The evil spirits knew they had to depart from the man, and they needed a place to go, and they begin to look to see where they could go. Just as they were looking then, they are still looking to see who will open their spirit so that they can be used by them. We open ourselves when we deliberately, willfully disobey the word of God. God does not control us, He has given us a free will.

Matthew 8:31

So the devils besought him, saying, if thou cast us out, suffer us to go away unto the herd of swine.

Evil spirits embodies humans just as they did the swine's. They couldn't continue to live in the man, so they needed somewhere else to go. When evil spirits are cast out of people, they need to find some one else they can use. Demonic spirits will use whoever will allow them to use them.

Matthew 8:32

And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the water.

The demon spirits would have destroyed the man the same way they destroyed the swine's if they would have continued to resided in him. Demonic spirits are just like their leader; they come to steal, kill and destroy. They don't care about a human's life. People that deliberately disobey, deprive themselves of divine protection and place themselves at the mercy of the forces of evil.

Matthew 8:33

And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told everything, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils.

The people saw the miracle working power of God at work, and they ran to tell others of what they had seen.

If we advertise the goodness of God as Satan followers advertise his works, there would be more faithful followers.

Matthew 8:34

And, behold, the whole city came out to meet Jesus: and when they saw him, they besought him that he would depart out of their coast.

You would think they would have wanted Jesus to stay and heal others, but they wanted Him out of their city so they could continue in their wickedness. Not like their pagan god, Jesus could not be contained, controlled, or appeased. They feared Jesus super natural power, a power they had never before witness. They also might have been upset by losing a herd of swine's. They could have been more upset about losing swine's rather than a man receiving deliverance.

Many times Christians rejoice over receiving a new home, car or more finances rather than rejoicing because they have Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Jesus is more than any gold, silver, rubies or diamonds can offer. He's more precious than life itself because of Him we have life and we can have it more abundantly when we seek Him and not His hand.

God bless you! Be encouraged. Know that you have the victory through Jesus Christ the Lord of Host.

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