

LUKE 7; August 24; Who Loved Jesus the Most?

ANALYSIS:

1. What was it about the centurion's faith that was so great?

2. What did the mighty Son of God feel toward the widow of Nain?

3. What did Jesus appeal to in order to confirm His identity to John?

4. How did the people and publicans justify God - declare Him right?

5. If Jesus was called a winebibber, what did He regularly drink? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

A sinful woman kissed and anointed the feet of Jesus in a dramatic appeal for forgiveness for her sins (7:36-50). But Simon the Pharisee was offended, because he did not think Jesus should give any attention to such a sinful woman. In his religion, such people were to be despised and avoided. But Jesus Christ came for just such people - sinners grieving about their sins. Jesus did not come to help men like Simon - self-righteous sinners who did not recognize their sinfulness. Are you humble before the feet of Jesus Christ today about your sins? And do you love to see other sinners rescued and forgiven, or do you despise them for not being as holy and righteous as you think you are?

When you have a need and take it to the Lord in prayer ... are you as confident as the centurion that Jesus Christ has the authority and power and willingness to command an answer for your situation? You should! He loves this kind of faith! And it is the man full of such faith whose prayers are heard (Matt 21:22; Jas 1:6-7). If you doubt His authority, power, or willingness, you will not receive anything. What is the most pressing need in your life today? Go to the Lord and ask Him to speak the word and solve your dilemma!

HELP:

1. He knew Jesus could heal with just His word, for he saw that Jesus had the authority of heaven with Him (v. 6-9). This centurion knew that Jesus could order a disease or anything else around just as the centurion could order any of the soldiers under his command. Glory!
2. Compassion (v. 13)! What comforting words from the Lord of glory, "Weep not." And what a way to put a smile on her face and joy in her heart!
3. By His glorious miracles and preaching of the gospel to the poor (v. 21-22).
4. They were baptized with the baptism of repentance, which involved their confession of sins and public testimony that God was right and just and holy (v. 29).
5. Clearly, He drank wine, in contrast to John's diet of locusts and wild honey (v. 34). He knew wine was good from the Bible (Ps 104:14-15), and He created much of it for His first miracle (John 2:1-11).