**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. June 25, 2023**

**Jesus Demonstrates His Kingdom Authority**

Matthew 8:5-17

**Key Truth**: Jesus has authority over every disease including, the disease of sin.

**The Centurion’s Remarkable Faith:**

1. The Centurion acknowledges Jesus’ personhood by calling

 Him Lord.

2. The Centurion appealed to the mercy and grace of Jesus.

3. The Centurion’s posture was one of humility.

 A. He acknowledged that he was unworthy of the presence of

 Jesus Christ in his home.

4. He acknowledges Jesus’ power and authority.

**Jesus’ Compassionate Response And Warning:**

1. Jesus was willing to go against the culture of His day.

 A. Jesus was showing that the gospel was for all ethnicities.

2. Jesus warns Israel that they are in danger of hell.

 A. Israel’s ethnicity doesn’t guarantee a seat at the table in

 heaven.

3. Jesus cares about the suffering and oppression of all people.

 Matthew 8:14-17

**What We Learn:**

1. The gospel of Jesus Christ is good news for all Nations.

2. Faith in Jesus Christ is the pathway to salvation and healing.

3. Being amazed at the authority of Jesus teaching doesn’t equal

 salvation.

4. Jesus has authority and power over disease, death, and

 demons.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Pray and thank God that Jesus is the Healer. Believe that Jesus can and will act in His timing and ways for your good and for His glory.

**Food For Thought:**

Read Matthew 8:5-9: How did the centurion’s response in verses 8-9 display his faith? How did it display his humility?

Are you ever guilty of bringing our requests before God and instructing Him how to respond? Was this the kind of faith Jesus credited to the centurion? If not, how was his different?

Read Ephesians 2:11-20: What were some of the “dividing walls of hostility” between Jews and Gentiles in Paul’s day?

What are some of the “dividing walls of hostility” between people of differing cultures, backgrounds, and ethnicities today? What are some problems that result from these dividing walls?

How are Jews reconciled to God? What about Gentiles? Why did Jesus’ death on the cross bring not only reconciliation between God and man, but also to different groups of people to each other?

How can our church cultivate and nurture unity to a community that is especially concerned about ethnic or racial tensions?