



Matthew 8:5-13

What Is Saving Faith?

- I. Introduction: What do I need to do to show I believe in Jesus and will go to heaven?
 - A. It is often said that Jesus helps those who can show faith.
 1. Being a good person.
 2. Being a good church member.
 - B. Great faith is seen when there is no other option.
 - C. What do you do when you have tried everything, but nothing works?
 1. The Kingdom of God is greater than we imagine.

- II. Centurian comes to Jesus asking for a miracle (8:5-7).
 - A. Centurian were commanders of 80 to as many as 200 soldiers.
 1. Had signed up for 20 years – a lifer.
 2. Had to be a Roman citizen.
 3. He asks repeatedly, “ing.”
 - a. Compound word, “calling to come near.”
 - b. Jesus interacting with the Roman occupiers!
 4. The problem:
 - a. The servant is paralyzed.
 - b. He is being tortured with pain!
 5. The reply: should I come or I will come.
 - a. This Roman has been good, funding a synagogue.
 - B. The Centurian’s response (8:8-9).
 1. I am unworthy for you to come to me just say the word...
 2. The Centurian is a man who understands authority and obedience.
 3. The Centurian recognizes Jesus has the authority to heal from a distance!
 - C. The response of Jesus (8:10-12).
 1. No one in Israel has shown this type of faith.
 2. Contrast: The Sons of Abraham and Gentiles.
 3. In God’s Kingdom there will be many unexpected guests.

- III. The Spiritual Lesson.
 - A. We are paralyzed and tortured in our fallen state.
 - B. We are not worthy for Jesus to come to us.
 - C. Salvation is not achieved by our efforts.
 - D. Jesus has the power from a distance, heaven.



Final Slide: Who can get into heaven?

Kingdom is extended to.

Gentiles! -----> Cross and resurrection extends to all

Those who are hopeless.

I

I

I

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V

Jesus heals a Centurions servant

Jesus can heal us

I

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Salvation comes to those who believe.

Salvation open to all.