

*“An Officer & a Gentleman!”*

## 1. **Intro:**

- 1.1. **Gracie** – Present plaque. Read verse. Pray. [DVD after 3<sup>rd</sup> service]
- 1.2. **Announce** – Wed night(a night of prayer!); Thurs.(Murrieta Prayer Breakfast); Come & pray in our Worship/Prayer room (8-4pm); Meet @ the Flagpole (12-12:30 City Hall).
- 1.3. **Mission Prayer Card** – Dennis & Marcia Felkner.
- 1.4. **Dollar Day** – To **increase awareness** of the homeless in Riv. County. And to **show unity** in the body of Christ [10 churches participated, total raised \$14,000]. We at CCM collected \$1,979. **Thank you!**
- 1.5. **Lastly** – Remember a few weeks back the \$8 I got ripped off at the gas pump?
- 1.6. Someone said, “Don’t be afraid to take a **big step** if one is indicated. You can’t cross a chasm in **two small jumps!**”
  - 1.6.1. We are going to meet a man this morning of **great faith!** [He took the big step]
  - 1.6.2. *It’s a Faith that **sees the invisible, believes the incredible, and receives the impossible!***

## 2. **AN OFFICER & A GENTLEMAN! (1-10)**

- 2.1. **HUMILITY HONORED!** (1-8)
- 2.2. “I’m not worthy” – **Confession of Humility!**
- 2.3. We learn that this man is *loving, thoughtful, & benevolent.*
  - 2.3.1. **Love was demonstrated to be a matter of deeds** - “he’s built us a synagogue”.
    - 2.3.1.1. Not mere words or feelings.
  - 2.3.2. In modern times “Righteous Gentiles” have been honored by **trees** planted along the road to Israel’s *Yad VaShem Holocaust Memorial*, because they risked their own death to save Jewish lives.<sup>1</sup>
- 2.4. **A Roman Centurion caring about his slave? - Loving him? - Loving him enough to approach Jesus on his behalf? Wow!**
- 2.5. **3 opinions concerning this Gentile Roman Centurion:**
- 2.6. **[1] The Jewish elder’s opinion!**
  - 2.6.1. **He’s worthy/deserving!** - He loves our nation! - He built us our synagogue!
  - 2.6.2. **That’s there great opinion of this man.**
- 2.7. **[2] His opinion of himself!**
  - 2.7.1. **I am not worthy/sufficient that you should enter under my roof!** (diff word: meant he could not entertain Jesus as Jesus ought to be entertained)
    - 2.7.1.1. [A Galilean peasant by all earthly position was concerned???]²
  - 2.7.2. **I did not even think myself worthy to come to you!** (here, he did use the word they used)
  - 2.7.3. **That’s his opinion of himself!**

<sup>1</sup>Adapted from; Stern, D. H. (1992). *Jewish New Testament commentary* : (1st ed.) (Lk 7:5).

<sup>2</sup> G. Campbell Morgan; pg.94

- 2.8. [3] **Jesus opinion of Him!**  
 2.8.1. I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel.  
 2.8.2. Christ's opinion was that he was a man of **remarkable faith!**
- 2.9. "God sends none away **empty** but those who are **full of themselves!**"
- 2.10. We can **never deserve** His blessings, but we can ask for them **in faith.**
- 2.11. We should all come to Christ like this man: [1] W/a **Confession of Humility** "I am not worthy" [2] W/a **Confession of Faith** "Say the Word"
- 2.12. **FAITH'S REWARD!** (9,10)  
 2.13. "Say the word" – **Confession of Faith!**  
 2.14. He didn't need to **go**. He didn't even need to **utter a word!**
- 2.15. **A FAITH THAT TURNS HEADS!** (9,10)  
 2.16. "He marveled...& turned around" – **applauding Faith!**  
 2.17. **Marveled** – we are told of only one other time when Jesus marveled.  
 2.17.1. Mark 6:6 "He marveled because of their **unbelief**" (up in Naz.)
- 2.18. I love that Jesus turned around to the crowd!  
 2.18.1. He's in awe of this **Gentile's Faith.** (Did you check that out?)  
 2.18.2. He esteems it **higher** than any of his own Jewish people.
- 2.19. **Q:** How will you make the Messiah Marvel at **your** faith in Him this week?

### 3. **MOVED WITH COMPASSION! (11-17)**

- 3.1. **Nain** – ("green pastures" "pleasant" "lovely") - 25 SW of Capernaum.  
 3.1.1. At the foot of its slope is the great valley of Jezreel.  
 3.1.2. This was the 1<sup>st</sup> miracle of raising the dead our Lord did.
- 3.2. **A WEeping WIDOW!** (11,12)  
 3.3. **A dead son** – **Declaration of Despair!**  
 3.4. Here is one of life's shadows – **What shadow** has hung over your life this last week?  
 3.4.1. Sorrow is a fact of daily life!
- 3.5. **Here two processions collide at Capernaum's city gate!**  
 3.5.1. In one procession the central figure is **Christ**, in the other a **corpse.**  
 3.5.2. One group is **entering** the city, the other **leaving** the city.  
 3.5.3. Here **death** meets **life**; **disorder** meets **order**; **mourning** meets **ministry.**  
 3.5.4. In one group **joy & gladness**, the other **sorrow & sadness.**
- 3.6. **A COMPASIONATE SAVIOR!** (13)  
 3.7. "Do not weep" – **Declaration of Compassion!**  
 3.8. **Compassion** or Sympathy – **feeling with & a felling for.**
- 3.9. **What did His heart snag on?** A **mother!**...who lost her **only son...**a **widow!**  
 3.9.1. That's what caught His heart! [not nec the dead son]  
 3.9.2. He always sees the brokenhearted. That's where His eyes always go.  
 3.9.3. Remember, **He had been sent to heal the brokenhearted!**

- 3.10. Instead of a **flash back** I wonder if Jesus was having a “*flash forward*” ...to his own mother?
- 3.10.1. His mother would soon be a **widow, weeping** over the death of her **only Son!**
- 3.10.2. She would experience these same feelings & deep hurts, but He will not be able to stop that process...of His “*mother’s sword*”.
- 3.11. This woman for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time was robbed of her provider & protector.
- 3.12. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> of 3 stories regarding “only” children that Luke shares with us.
- 3.12.1. Jarius’ Daughter(8:42) & a child possessed of a demon(9:38).
- 3.13. Jesus reacted by: Seeing, feeling, speaking, & acting.
- 3.13.1. **Seeing** – Look for opportunities.
- 3.13.1.1. **Don’t** be so absorbed in self.
- 3.13.2. **Feeling** – Allow your heart to feel.
- 3.13.2.1. **Don’t** become callous to others needs & hurts.
- 3.13.2.2. **His feeling was delicate**: Words few & simple; too many words often spoil.
- 3.13.3. **Speaking** – Speak Up!
- 3.13.3.1. **Don’t** allow the crowd to muzzle you.
- 3.13.4. **Acting** – Do good, do something!
- 3.13.4.1. **Don’t** only be touched on the inside.
- 3.13.4.2. True sympathy must be **put into action**.
- 3.13.4.3. **Feelings** must become **touch...or they will soon evaporate!**<sup>3</sup>
- 3.14. Jesus spoke to the dead & he heard!
- 3.14.1. If you ever been present when a loved one died, you’ve probably talked to them saying your goodbyes even after they were gone.
- 3.14.1.1. **We talk to them as they lay there, but we know they can’t hear us.**
- 3.14.2. **But when Jesus speaks to the dead He speaks as though they can hear Him...And they do! - They hear Him...& they respond!**
- 3.14.3. **It was the same with all 3 Jesus raised from the dead:**
- 3.14.3.1. **The 12 yr old little girl** – Tenderly in her mother tongue “*Taliatha cumi*” “damsel/maiden arise”! [Mark 5:40]
- 3.14.3.2. **A friend** - Standing in front his tomb(calls him by name)“*Lazarus come forth*”
- 3.14.3.3. **A little girl, a friend, a mothers son!**
- 3.14.4. **See, the dead are “alive”(spiritually)...they’re just detached from their body.**
- 3.15. **Jesus, a sympathizing Friend, a living reality, a powerful Lord!**
- 3.16. **FUNERAL CRASHER!** (14,15)
- 3.17. **“I say to you Arise!” – Declaration of Power over death!**
- 3.18. Here, **“Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”**<sup>1</sup> Cor.15:54,55
- 3.18.1. Here is a precursor to His final mission – **to abolish death!**
- 3.19. Jesus knew just how to ruin a perfectly good funeral!
- 3.19.1. He never attended nor officiated one funeral service that we know of!
- 3.19.2. This **funeral procession** turned into a **Walk for Life!**

<sup>3</sup> Griffith Thomas; pg/125

- 3.20. **Ok, this is freaky:**
- 3.21. **he who was dead sat up** – what did the pallbearers do?
- 3.22. **and began to speak** – Ever wonder what he said??? 😊
- 3.22.1. “Hey, let me down! – Ouu, get me out of this box! – Mom, I promise to be good!”
- 3.22.2. Probably 1<sup>st</sup> word...“Ema/Mother”!
- 3.23. **A HAPPY MOTHER!** (15b)
- 3.24. **The Presentation!** – **Declaration of Hope!**
- 3.25. **“deliver him to his mother”** – beautiful touch, chiefly for her sake.
- 3.26. **Never despair!** – He may not raise **your love one** back to this world, but Jesus’ promise is still true today, **“he who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live!”**
- 3.27. **A GOD VISIT!** (16)
- 3.28. **“God has visited His people”** – **Declaration of Awe!**
- 3.29. They didn’t realize how accurate they were!
- 3.30. Did you know, God HAS visited his people...& His name is Jesus Christ!
- 3.30.1. Phillips Trans **“God has turned His face towards His people.”**
- 3.31. **Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God -**
- 3.31.1. (NIV) **They were all filled with awe and praised God.**
- 3.31.2. (NASB) **Fear gripped them all, & they began glorifying God.**
- 3.31.3. (ESV) **Fear seized them all, and they glorified God.**
- 3.31.4. (Message Bible) **They were quietly worshipful—and then noisily grateful, calling out among themselves, “God is back, looking to the needs of his people!”**
- 3.32. **Don’t miss the fact:** Nothing is mentioned about the mothers faith, or lack thereof; Nothing is mentioned of any lesson after this to the crowds following Him; It wasn’t even prompted by the crowds to prove His divinity!
- 3.32.1. **It was solely from the well of divine compassion!**
- 3.32.2. **Someone broken, hurting, weak, frail...moved the heart of God!**
- 3.32.3. **The God who has everything...wanted me!** (Billy Graham)
- 3.33. **Wrap Up:**
- 3.34. **[1] Resurrection – our resurrection hour is coming!**
- 3.34.1. **“Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.” Rev.20:6**
- 3.35. **[2] Reunion - We will have reunion ties renewed!** (in heaven)
- 3.35.1. 2 Sam 12:22,23 **“And he(David) said, “While the child was alive, I fasted and wept; for I said, ‘Who can tell whether the LORD will be gracious to me, that the child may live?’ But now he is dead; why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me.”**
- 3.35.2. **What a great reunion it will be meeting up w/the saints that have gone before us.**
- 3.36. **[3] Recognition – shall we know each other?**
- 3.36.1. **Shall we have less sense in that life than in this?**
- 3.36.2. **“Our minds will be clearer in heaven, not foggier!”<sup>4</sup>**

<sup>4</sup> Randy Alcorn; heaven; pg.331.

- 3.36.3. **After Christ's resurrection** He was seen & **recognized** by many.
- 3.36.4. **At transfiguration** the disciples **recognized** Moses & Elijah even though they couldn't have known what they looked like.
- 3.36.4.1. It seems we'll immediately know those we've never previously met, so how much more **family & friends**.
- 3.36.5. The whole interchange between **Lazarus**(in heaven w/Abraham) & **the rich man**(in hell).
- 3.36.5.1. Remembers his brothers on earth.
- 3.36.6. **Paul's words of comfort** in 1 Thes.4:13-18.
- 3.36.6.1. (13) **"But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep(died), lest you **sorrow** as others who have **no hope**."**
- 3.36.6.2. (18) **"Therefore **comfort** one another with these words."**
- 3.36.7. There seems to be a **continuity & memory of history**.
- 3.36.7.1. In Rev.21:12-14, in the **New City Jerusalem**, will have memorials of the **12 tribes & 12 apostles**.
- 3.36.7.1.1. This indicates a continuity & memory of history.
- 3.36.8. **Remember our past? – Yes, but not to the point of despair!**
- 3.36.8.1. **Rev.6:9-11** – Talks about a group of martyrs who fully remembered their martyrdom up in heaven.
- 3.36.8.2. But Jesus gave words of comfort in Lk.16:25 that in heaven those who experienced bad things on earth will be comforted.
- 3.36.8.2.1. **"Abraham said, 'Son(rich man in hell), remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise **Lazarus evil things**; but now he is **comforted** and you are tormented."**
- 3.36.8.2.2. Lazarus, sitting next to Abraham didn't say, **"I did? I experienced evil things? I forgot!"**
- 3.37. **So we have:** Our own **Resurrection** coming one day! – A **Reunion**, our family & friend ties renewed! – And have **Recognition**, we shall know each other & be known?
- 3.38. **Jesus doesn't promise no storms in our life, but that we shall be kept safe in it!**
- 3.38.1. Like a village surrounded by mountains. **"The mountains both attract the storms & protect from them."**
- 3.39. A seagoing captain commanded a passenger ship that was sailing from Liverpool, England, to New York. His family was on board with him. One night when everyone was asleep, a squall unexpectedly swept over the waters and tossed the ship violently, awakening the passengers. They were all terribly afraid because of the storm. The captain's little 8-year-old girl was also awakened. **"What's the matter?"** cried the frightened child. Her mother told her that a sudden storm had struck the ship. **"Is Father on deck?"** she asked. **"Yes, Father's on deck,"** came the encouraging answer. Hearing this, the little girl snuggled back into her bed and in a few moments was sound asleep. The **winds** still blew and the **waves** still rolled, but her fears were calmed because her father was at the helm.<sup>5</sup>
- 3.39.1. No Christian is immune from the storms of life. When we come to faith we are not automatically guaranteed that we will be free from difficulty and trial. Yet we are assured of God's abiding presence and mighty power to calm our fears and hold us secure in time of trouble.

<sup>5</sup>Galaxie Software. (2002; 2002). *10,000 Sermon Illustrations*. Biblical Studies Press.

- 3.40. God hath not promised **sun** w/o rain, **Joy** w/o sorrow, **peace** w/o pain;  
But God hath promised **strength** for the day, **Rest** for the labor, **light** for the way.  
Annie Johnson Flint
- 3.41. **Q:** How will you make the Messiah Marvel at **your** faith in Him this week?
- 3.42. **Q:** Will you anticipate **receiving** God's goodness towards you this week?