Jesus Heals Many

Matthew 8:1-17
by Don Falkos
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A man with leprosy knelt in front of Jesus. "Lord, if you are willing, you can heal me."

Jesus reached out and touched the man saying, "I'm willing. You are healed." Instantly the leprosy was gone. Jesus told the man, "Don't talk about this to anyone. Go straight to the priest and offer the sacrifices Moses commanded for this kind of healing. That way what's happened to you will be part of the official record rather than simply a matter of gossip."

When Jesus went into Capernaum, a Roman centurion came to him asking for help. "Lord, my servant is in bed, paralyzed and suffering terrible pain."

Jesus said, "I'll come and heal him."

The centurion replied, "Sir, I'm not important enough to have you come into my home. But just say the word and I know that my servant will be healed. I'm accustomed to working under orders, and I issue orders to my men. I say to one soldier, 'Go,' and he goes. To another I say, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

Jesus turned to the crowd that was following him and said, "In all Israel I have never encountered anyone with such great faith. Many Gentiles, like this Roman soldier will find a place in the kingdom of heaven. But many who should be there will be thrown out into the darkness, where there will be weeping and bitter regret."

Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go home. Your servant will recover, just as you believed." And the servant was healed.

Jesus went to Simon's house. Simon's mother-in-law was sick with a high fever. Jesus touched her hand, and the fever was gone. That evening sick people were brought to Jesus. He healed them all and cast out many evil spirits.