

“Crumbs from Heaven”

Matthew 15:21–28

I. God is often drawn to spiritual darkness to reveal His glory.

A. Jesus’ retreat brought Him to region of spiritual darkness.

Matthew 15:21–22 — ²¹ Jesus went away from there, and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and began to cry out, saying, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed.”

B. The Sidonian Woman asked for “mercy”:

1. To ask for mercy is to say “*please don’t give me what I deserve.*”

C. The Sidonian woman knew much about Jesus:

1. She had heard of the name and the fame of Jesus.
2. She Identified Jesus with His Messianic title of “Son of David”.
3. She laid at his feet a request that according to His fame He could easily deal with.

II. Sometimes God does not answer our plea for a good reason.

Matthew 15:23-24 ²³ But He did not answer her a word. And His disciples came and implored Him, saying, “Send her away, because she keeps shouting at us.” ²⁴ But He answered and said, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

A. Jesus did not answer her plea -

B. Why did Jesus at first reject her plea?

1. Jesus wanted to draw out the fulness of her faith.
2. **Application:** Perhaps God is challenging us to exercise more faith when it appears He blocks, or resists our pleas.

C. This caused the woman to humbled herself to the Lord –

Matthew 15:25 – “*But she came and began to bow down before*

Him, saying, “Lord, help me!””

1. God has made certain promises to those who humble themselves to Him: **1 Peter 5:5–7**

III. Jesus now begins to draw out the greatness of her faith.

A. He places a common-sense argument before her.

Matthew 15:26-27 – ²⁶ And He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ But she said, “Yes, Lord; but even the dogs feed on the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.”

B. The woman believed that even God had crumbs for her.

1. Jesus was morally obligated to give her the miracle she begged for according to **Luke 16:20–21**
2. If Jesus did not give her the crumbs of heaven, then He would become heartless rich man.

C. Jesus rewards the greatness of her faith.

Matthew 15:28 - “*Then Jesus said to her, “O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed at once.*”

1. “**O**” is an interjection used to express the emotion of surprise.
2. She believed God’s crumbs were worth much more than what mere humans can deliver.

D. Principles:

1. **God rewards those who believe** – “*without faith it is impossible to please God...*”
2. **Great faith is forged in our temporary trials.** - **1 Peter 1:6–7**

E. Application: Will God not give much more than crumbs to His own children who believe?

THINK, PRAY and OBEY: What crumbs would you ask for?

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