"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 draws 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. 1Peter 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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