



The Gospel of Mark Following Christ

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“The Gospel for all People” The Faith of the Syrophenician Woman

Mark 7:24-30

March 19, 2017

Dr. Mark Strauss

Theme: When a Gentile woman with a demon possessed daughter approaches Jesus for healing, He initially rebuffs her request, saying it is not right to give the children’s bread to the “dogs.” His mission is for the Jews first rather than the Gentiles. Yet when the woman cleverly responds that even the dogs are allowed to eat the children’s bread that falls from the table, He rewards her faith by casting the demon out of her daughter. The episode powerfully illustrates both the priority of Israel in salvation history and the full inclusion of the Gentiles in the blessings of that salvation.

Outline

1. Setting: The Region of Tyre—Gentile Territory (7:24)

2. The Encounter with the Syrophenician Woman (7:25–29)

a. Her approach (vv. 25–26)

b. Jesus' initial rebuff (v. 27)

c. The woman's wise and witty response (v. 28)

d. Jesus' commendation and the healing pronouncement (v. 29)

3. The Result: The Girl is Healed (v. 30)

Takeaway: This episode reminds us that God loves the lowly, the marginalized, and the outsider. If that is God's heart, it should be ours as well.

Next Cove:

March 26, 2017

Healing a Deaf and Mute Man

Mark 7:31-37