



MATTHEW

The Prophecy Fulfilled

Lepers and Romans?



- First a leper, then a ROMAN?
 - Jesus was establishing the base of His Kingdom...
 - 1 Corinthians 1:26-29
- Centurion ~ message of faith!
 - Praying not for himself... intercession prayers!
 - Words here are very strong...

Barriers?



- Roman's were enemies and conquerors...
 - Prejudices, cultural barriers, not politically correct!
- Distance – servant was far away, in a Roman home...
- Gentile – alien, lost, enemy of...?
- “I will come...” a shocking statement from Jesus
- And the Centurion responds...

I am not worthy...



- A man of authority, prestige, power... to a foe?
 - “say with a word” and he will be healed
 - I understand authority... what I say happens...
- He was giving Jesus authority, power, position
- Jesus marvels!
 - GREAT faith... not in all Israel...
 - Only 1 other...

Jesus Style...



- He commends this man that others despised...
- Held him as an example...
- “many” shall come to the table with Abraham... sons of the kingdom will be cast out! Warning to us???
- Warns of “darkness...weeping and gnashing of teeth”
- A terrible picture of suffering...

On to Family...



- Peter's House... Capernaum
 - MIL ~ sick with fever...
 - He saw her sick... no request needed
 - Call from the other room? Send Peter to do it?
 - He touches her hand... personal
 - Her response? *diakoneo* ~ attend, service

And the gift goes on...



- Jesus heals “many”
 - Demon-possessed, cast out with a word (*logos*)
 - *therapeuó* again... to minister to bring about healing
 - To fulfill scripture (9th of 16 times in Matthew) - Isaiah 53
- 2 potential followers... 19-22 - from multitudes?
 - Scribe... Son of Man have no where to lay my head...
 - “I will follow you, but...” Follow me!