



## Prisoners of Hope - Soul Food

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- A Weekly Insight into the Current Real Life Issues -

### GOD'S FAVOR IS TOO BIG FOR ONE NATION

*Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, you have strong faith! What you wanted will be done for you" (Matthew 15:28).*

The passage above is about the faith of the Canaanite woman. In those ancient days, it was a well-known fact the people of Israel did not like Canaanites. The Canaanites were the people who occupied the Promised Land before Israel came to live there. However, this passage is about the 'great faith' of a Canaanite woman. This woman was unique in a way that she was the only person Jesus said had 'great faith'.

The incident begins in desperation, where great faith often begins. Desperate situations will always require one to take desperate measures. This Canaanite woman, whose name is not disclosed, had a daughter whom she described as 'cruelly possessed by a demon' (Matthew 15:22). We don't know exactly what this meant, but it easily could have meant she was afflicted with violently insane behavior. Whatever her symptoms, her mother was desperate for her to be healed - to be free from this terrible state. Her desperation led to hope in Jesus.

As she bowed down at Jesus' feet, Jesus told her something very strange. He said: **"It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs"** (Matthew 15:26). In other words, Jesus was saying 'It is not good for me to take the blessings meant for Israel only and give it to other nations or unbelievers'. Now allow me to draw your attention to this woman's response: **"That's true Lord, yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters table"** (Matthew 15:27). In other words, she said: 'Lord, I know Your blessings were meant for one nation (Israel) only but Your favor is for the entire world (Psalm 30:5). I know Your favor is so great that I'll gladly take the leftovers and be satisfied'.

At this final response from this woman, I can visualize the scene where Jesus' serious face broke into a smile, reached down and grabs her by the hands, helped her off her feet, looked her in the eye and said: **"Woman, you have strong faith! What you wanted will be done for you"** (Matthew 15:28). The question is: 'How persistent are you? Do you have faith that is so great that it won't give up even in the face of uncertainty, or do you have faith that gives up when you don't see a quick response?' The scripture says **"For everyone who keeps on asking receives"** (Matthew 7:8). The word 'keeps' is not a once-off event but continuous. When you're persistent in what you believe God for, the promise is: 'you shall receive'.

Remember, God's Favor is too big for one nation. I decree that the doors shall be open unto you this week. All your past disappointments shall become your divine appointments this week. You will not turn back at the edge of your miracles but you will be at the right place at the right time this week. God shall perfect all good things concerning you and you shall not die but live to declare the works of God before the end of this week, in the mighty name of Jesus. Expect God to show up early in your life this week! Enjoy a fresh new beginning today, have a very Blessed week and **Continue to be a Prisoner of Hope.**

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#### PRAYER OF SALVATION

The Bible says if you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins and was raised from the dead; your soul shall be saved. Your decision to accept Jesus as your Savior is the most important decision you can make in your life. It's a decision that gives you assurance that your soul will find rest, when your body is buried.

If you can believe, please give your soul an assurance of rest and say this prayer from your mouth:

*Dear Lord, I come to you now, just and I am. Thank you for dying on the cross for my sins. You know my life. You know how I've lived. Forgive me Lord. I repent of my sins. Lord Jesus, come into my heart and make me the person you want me to be. Live your life in me and through me from now on. I receive Jesus Christ as my new Lord and Savior. From this day forward, I belong to you. Thank you Lord, in Jesus Name. Amen!*

If you said this prayer for the first time, I personally welcome you to the family of God. I would like to give you some information and pray with you to assist you in your new life.

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