Jesus and the Canaanite woman

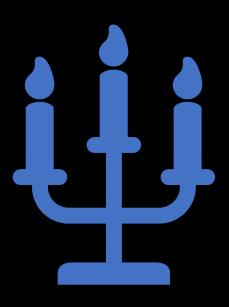
Matthew 15:21-28



Dougal

Flora





It's about...

- grace not race
- recognisingJesus, not rulesabout purity
- faith, not trying hard

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Grace, not race

- the woman is an outsider
 - a gentile
 - a Canaanite

Grace, not race

the woman is an outsider

Jesus seems reluctant to help

the woman persists

Jesus continues to resist

the woman responds cleverly

 Jesus heals her daughter

Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'

Matthew 28:18-20

Grace, not race

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 Jesus seems reluctant to help

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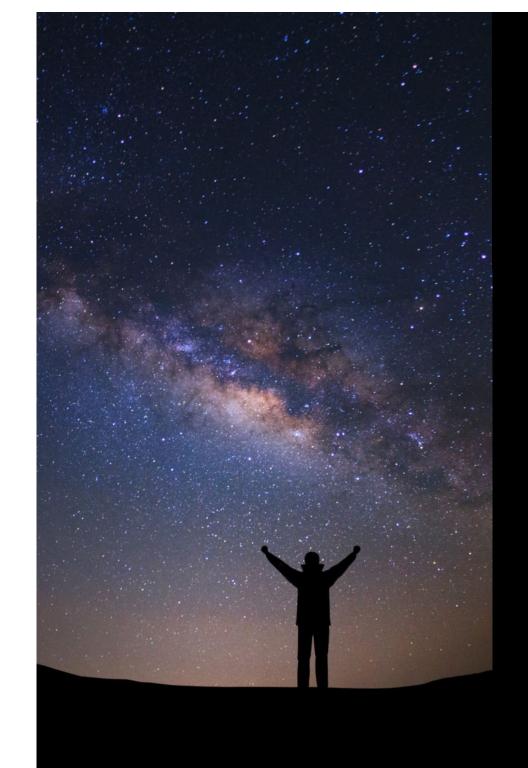
Jesus heals her daughter

the centurion's servant 8:5-13



- the danger of writing people off
- the danger of writing Jewish people off





Recognising Jesus

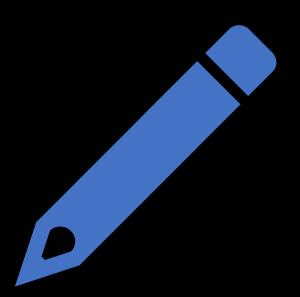
- 'Lord' vv 22, 25, 27
- 'son of David' v 22
 - 'This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David' 1:1
 - 'Hosanna to the son of David!' 21:9

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Recognising
Jesus

- the Canaanite woman recognises who Jesus is
- contrast vv 1-20
 - Jesus in debate over purity laws vv 1-2
 - what matter is the heart, not just the externals vv 10-20



Recognising Jesus

- beware mistaking high moral standards for real love for Jesus
- beware making it harder than it is to follow Jesus

Faith, not trying hard

- 'great faith' v 28
 - confidence that
 Jesus can help
 vv 22, 27



...when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. Those who doubt should not think they will receive anything from the Lord; they are double-minded and unstable in all they do.

James 1:6-8

Faith, not trying hard

- 'great faith' v 28
 - confidence that
 Jesus can help
 vv 22, 27
 - asking humblyv 25
 - persistence and boldness
 vv 22, 23, 25, 27



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