

JUST A CRUMB

Jesus has just come from a conversation with the religious Pharisees about their traditions surrounding the eating of BREAD (!) ...

Matthew 15:1-3 Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

Matthew 15:12 Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?

Jesus has had enough of this dead traditionalism for one day ...

Matthew 15:21-28 Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon. And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil. But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us. But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

- The coasts of Tyre and Sidon – Jesus always goes to the EDGE!
- Canaanite woman – she has no right to even talk to Jesus because she is a woman, and because she is an idolatrous Canaanite
- YOUR HISTORY DOESN'T DETERMINE YOUR DESTINY!
- Have mercy on me, thou Son of David – she knows He is Israel's Messiah, not hers, but she appeals to His MERCY – "I know I'm not good, but I'm desperate!"
- Jesus doesn't even answer her – she is met with SILENCE at first – and the disciples want Him to send her away because she is bothering them – but then Jesus starts TALKING to her!
- REMEMBER WHEN HE FIRST STARTED TALKING TO YOU?

- I am not sent but to the lost sheep of the house of Israel – it is inappropriate for me to minister to you right now, because it's not in my mission – like an insurance policy, you are asking for benefits for which you have no coverage – you're outside Israel's covenant
- Then came she and worshipped him – I know I'm not in covenant, but help me - IF GOD HAS A WEAKNESS, IT'S YOUR WORSHIP!
- The "rules" say Jesus can't help her, but He wants to!
- It is not meet to take the children's bread and to cast it to dogs – it wouldn't be right for me to feed YOU and let my kids go hungry – I have made a promise to always look after my kids first
- Truth Lord, yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table – she didn't know much about Jesus yet, but she did know something about his kids – KIDS ARE WASTEFUL – and when people are used to blessings they take them for granted!
- GOD IS MOVED BY HUNGER – you don't have to be "right" yet, you just have to WANT to be right!
- YOUR CHILDREN WASTE ENOUGH FOR ME TO GET MY MIRACLE! I'll take their leftovers and I'll do more with the crumbs they waste than they did with the whole loaf of bread!
- Jesus can still remember His recent conversation with the Pharisees – they were quibbling over how they ceremonially washed their hands before they ate bread – but this woman is just HUNGRY!
- It's all over at that point – be it unto thee even as thou wilt! SHE GOT HER MIRACLE, NOT BECAUSE SHE WAS RIGHT, BUT BECAUSE SHE WAS HUNGRY. The Israelites were "right" but not hungry!
- WATCH WHAT I DO WITH MY LITTLE CRUMB !!!
- There are always enough "leftovers" when Jesus is in the house for EVERYONE to get their miracle – if they are hungry enough!
- Mark adds this detail in his Gospel account ...

Mark 7:24 And from thence he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know it: but he could not be hid.

- When all the folks who made it off “crumbs” really live a life of worship, it gets noised abroad that Jesus is in the house!