

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: Friday 14th July 2023

By Revd John Ohen

Authority

How do we deal with authority?

Like any commissioned officer, the Roman centurion was no stranger to authority. Most commanders lay great emphasis on obedience without question or hesitation. Those in authority understand the importance of command and this is part of their training. The centurion was faced with a personal problem he could not personally deal with. Its like for any one of us, when a major problem can threaten the security of any person or family and may expose our vulnerability. This is more apparent when sickness or disease strikes, and we become very vulnerable, but the centurion knew in his heart who to turn to first, our Lord Jesus.

The centurion very humbly asked Jesus for help. He wanted God to do a miracle in his life. The centurion unusually addresses Jesus as Lord, and was admitting that he was not worthy for Jesus to come under his roof. "Only say the word and my servant will be healed". Here the centurion is showing his belief and trust in the power of Jesus and His authority over all things. His reward was twofold, his servant was healed and he received an endorsement of his faith. We say a slight variation of the Centurions words t at the Eucharist "Lord, I am not worthy for you to enter under my roof, only say the word and I shall be healed."

The centurions faith speaks to us all today, his belief and humble heart shows us faith in action. As we give our lives to Jesus, we too can benefit from Jesus presence and healing.

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, we thank you for all your blessings on us. Be with us in all we do, until we see you face to face in heaven.

BIBLE PASSAGE: Matthew 8:5-13