

Matthew - "Why Jesus?"

Presuming upon God

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Matthew 15:21-28 – Presuming upon God

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Matt. 10:5 These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, [6] but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

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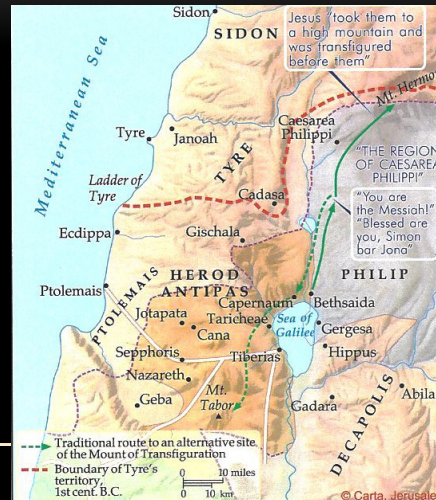
Matthew 15:21-28 – Presuming upon God

There is a reality that this woman knows:

- *Astonishingly not a Jewish woman but rather a Gentile*
 - *& not just a Gentile, a Gentile that lives outside the land in Tyre/Sidon*
 - *& not just a gentile outside the land, the text calls her a Canaanite*
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1) The History behind Jesus' call

Israel needed to know God was keeping His promise

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1) The History behind Jesus' call

Jesus as Messiah was the One to look for to let them know God was:

- *Here...NOW*
 - *Keeping His promise*
 - *God was finally making all things new*
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1) The History behind Jesus' call

What was it that God promised?

a) He promised He would come as Messiah – rescuer

Psalm 42:1 Behold My Servant, whom I uphold, My Chosen, in whom My soul delights; I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations.

[2] He will not cry aloud or lift up His voice, or make it heard in the street;

[3] a bruised reed He will not break, and a faintly burning wick He will not quench;

He will faithfully bring forth justice. [4] He will not grow faint or be discouraged till He has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for His law.

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1) The History behind Jesus' call

And what was it that God promised?

a) He promised He would come as Messiah – rescuer

b) He promised He would come as eternal King

II Sam. 7:16 And your house (David) and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before Me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

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1) The History behind Jesus' call

And what was it that God promised?

a) He promised He would come as Messiah – rescuer

b) He promised He would come as eternal King

c) He promised He would come as the final Great Prophet

Deut. 18:15 “The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to Him you shall listen—

[18] I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.

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1)The History behind Jesus’ call

And what was it that God promised?

a)He promised He would come as Messiah – rescuer

b)He promised He would come as eternal King

c)He promised He would come as the final Great Prophet

d)He promised HOW He was going to do it

Genesis 12:1 Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you (read the land of Israel). [2] And I will make of you a great nation (read the Jews), and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. [3] I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**”

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1)The History behind Jesus’ call

If God had indeed come...

a)He HAD to come thru Israel

To fulfill (Genesis 1:3b) “and **in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.**”

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1) The History behind Jesus' call

If God had indeed come...

a) He HAD to come thru Israel

b) And He had to come TO Israel

- *Fulfillment of Is. 35:5-6 = God would come & when He did He would heal the blind, the deaf, lame & mute*
 - *Feeding of 4000 & 7 baskets – possibly represents Gentiles*
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2) The heart behind Jesus' voice

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- 1) The History behind Jesus' call
- 2) The heart behind Jesus' voice

- a) The Trinity – we are made in God's image

Acts 17:26 And He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, [27] that they (meaning EVERYONE equally) should seek God, in the hope that they might feel their way toward Him and find Him. Yet He is actually not far from each one of us, [28] for “In Him we ALL live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we are indeed ALL His offspring.”

Gal. 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, [23] gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

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- 1) The History behind Jesus' call
- 2) The heart behind Jesus' voice

- a) The Trinity – we are made in God's image

James 4:1 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? [2] You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. [3] You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.

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1) The History behind Jesus' call

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- a) The Trinity – we are made in God's image
 - b) By how He speaks OF her = “GREAT is your faith”
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- a) The Trinity – we are made in God's image
- b) By how He speaks OF her = “GREAT is your faith”

She knows:

➤ The dogs can't just eat the children's food = I.e. she knows what God has promised & has no goal to undo it

➤ But she insists her point as well = “Yea, but we are the ones to be blessed by Israel”
We are “The Nations”...I am “the Nations”

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 - a) The Trinity – we are made in God's image
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N.T. Wright:

“Jesus & the Disciples aren't even ready for Calvary yet. This foreign woman is already insisting upon Easter!”

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- 1) The History behind Jesus' call
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 - 3) What do WE do with this?
 - a) *We must presume upon the goodness of God & His faithfulness to His promises*
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- 1) The History behind Jesus' call
- 2) The heart behind Jesus' voice
- 3) What do WE do with this?

- a) *We must presume upon the goodness of God & His faithfulness to His promises*
 - b) Insisting upon the not yet RIGHT NOW
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