

Jesus & the Canaanite Woman: Principles on Missions, the Goyim Get the Crumbs & the Disciples Get a Lesson; the Fallacy of Exorcism, Matt 15:21-28

58. Our Lord's approach to the Gentile "dogs" is the subject of His conversation with a Canaanite woman in:

Matthew 15:21 - Jesus went away from there [Gennesaret \ge-nes'-a-ret\], and withdrew into the district of Tyre and Sidon.

Matthew 15:22 - And a Canaanite woman from that area came out and began yelling out, "Have mercy on me, Lord [Κύριος, *Kurios*: recognition of the deity of Christ indicating she is a believer], Son of David [Υἱός Δαβίδ, *Huios David*: recognizes Jesus as the God-Man]! My daughter is demon-possessed."

v. 23 - But Jesus did not answer her a word [a test of his disciples faith-rest]. His disciples came and keep on begging Him, "Send her away, because she keeps shouting at us" [they fail the test due to embarrassment over her loud public display].

v. 24 - But He answered and said, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

- 1) Our Lord's mission was to convert Israel through which the entire world was to be evangelized by means of missionary function. For Him to go out to Gentile regions and do their job would circumvent the client nation requirements of Israel and preclude the conversion of its lost sheep.
- 2) Christ is honoring the order and precedence of His earthly mission: convert the lost sheep of Israel. God could immediately sort out the wheat from the chaff if He wanted to, but that would override the participation of the human race in resolving the angelic conflict.
- 3) God uses client nations to evangelize the lost. Believers in a client nation are to respond to the message of the Gospel and then take it to the lost of the world: the goyim.
- 4) Christ's primary assignment was to deal only with the privileged class: Israel. He is not sent to deal with the "dogs." This is Israel's job through missions.
- 5) In this case, the woman is not disqualified to speak with the Lord, although she is a goy she is also saved.

Matthew 15:25 - But the woman came and bowed down before Him and said, "Lord, help me!"

Matthew 15:26 - And Jesus answered and said, "It is not right to take the children's bread [the message intended for the House of Israel] and throw it to the little dogs [κυνάριον, *kunarion*: little dogs, i.e., Gentiles]."

- 1) This is an analogy in which the Lord points out that the children of God, the Israelites, must come first in His order or priorities.
- 2) Israel cannot be denied the truth of the Gospel in order for Him to spend time giving it to the heathen Gentiles.

Matthew 15:27 - "But she replied, "Yes, this is true, Lord; but even little dogs feed on the crumbs that fall from their masters' table."

- 1) The woman expresses to the Lord her understanding of the doctrine of selection: she was imputed human life at physical birth by God.

- 2) She asserts that even though she is a Gentile—a little dog—, she is still the Master's dog and therefore eligible to lick up the crumbs that fall from His children's table.
- 3) Further, she exhibits great humility. The Lord's comment was such that she could have either reacted with ethnic arrogance or responded in humble agreement.
- 4) The woman understood that although not a Jew she was a member of the heavenly community which qualified her to seek assistance from her Master.
- 5) Principle: Those who are insulted by ethnic slurs are either ashamed of their ethnicity or assume it to be superior to that of the one hurling the epithet.
- 6) To so react indicates arrogance and self-centeredness which has no place in a system that recognizes both Jew and Gentile, both slave and free, both male and female as being one in Christ Jesus.
- 7) Progressive ideology has made it possible for unbelievers to be offended by what others say to them and react in kind with howls for justice. It's the games people play today in the battle for political advantage in a lustful search for power, advantage, and money.
- 8) The woman the Lord addressed was a believer with humility and thus qualified through blessing by association with the God of Israel to claim her rights as His child.

Matthew 15:28 - Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, you have great faith. Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed that very hour.

- 1) This exchange was intended to teach a lesson of faith-rest to the disciples.
 - 2) This believer-Gentile displayed not only faith-rest but a confidence before the Lord that displayed to Him her knowledge of doctrine that required Him to fulfill her request.
 - 3) The disciples were embarrassed by her and thus displayed ethnic arrogance toward her. They should have put the matter into the Lord's hands, shut up, and tried to learn something from how He dealt with the woman.
26. The duty of the spiritual aristocrat is to domesticate the dogs of the devil's world. Domestication is accomplished through evangelism and evangelism is accomplished by means of a clear concise Gospel message, for example:

"Jesus of Nazareth, Who is both perfect God and sinless Man, was sacrificed on the cross for the sins of the human race after which He died, was buried, and after three days was resurrected from the dead. The purpose of these things is that anyone who believes them will be delivered from retribution in the lake of fire after he dies. The result of these things is that anyone who believes them will be imputed eternal life and will go to heaven when he dies. Do you believe this?"

27. The manner by which a Christian gentleman and lady present themselves to society is as much a testimony and witness as is anything said. Knowing what to say, and just as importantly, when and if to say it, are the marks of the aristocrat.
28. To summarize the art of aristocratic persona we return to Brad Miner's "Art of Sprezzatura."