

## THE CHILDREN'S BREAD

*Mat 15:26 And He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs."*

A Canaanite woman came to Jesus to find healing and deliverance for her daughter. It seems like Jesus was overly harsh to this woman by calling her a dog. The Jews considered the Gentiles to be dogs. However, this was not why Jesus referred to this lady as a dog. To the Lord, the Gentiles were not dogs, but in His estimation **religious and legalistic people were the dogs!**

**Php 3:2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;**

Here in Philippians Paul was inspired by the Spirit of the Lord to call the legalists of his day dogs. These were men who were trying to draw God's people away from grace. God does not see those under the load of sin as dogs. He sees self righteous people who try to draw people away from the grace of God as the dogs! Why then did Jesus call this Canaanite woman a dog when she was asking for His help? It was because she came to Him in a religious way. She came trying to be something she was not. Religious people are always trying to act like something they are not or boast of what they do not possess. Let's look at how this woman addressed the Lord.

**Mat 15:22 And a Canaanite woman from that region came out and *began* to cry out, saying, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is cruelly demon-possessed."**

The woman came to Jesus and appealed to Jesus by His Jewish title. Undoubtedly, she had either heard others use this title of Him or heard about others using that title in beseeching His help. The woman came to Jesus as if she was a Jew invoking a Jewish title upon Jesus. However, being a Gentile she had no covenant with God and no rights to the blessings that belonged to God's people. Jesus ignored her when she did this. The disciples finally came to Jesus about her, and He said that He had come only for the lost sheep of Israel. She had no covenant right to healing, even though she was trying to evoke it by using the term "Son of David". Finally, the woman gave up that tactic and came and fell upon her knees and got real with Jesus! She came and fell down and simply said, "**Lord help me**" She

left off the “**Son of David**” bit. She placed her faith upon Jesus as **Lord**. She came as a helpless sinner that was unworthy and undeserving in the least of the blessings of God. When she did that Jesus then was ready to speak to her and provide for her. Jesus said that healing was the children's bread and was not to be given to dogs. She did not defend herself, but admitted that in she was no better than an unclean dog that needed a free meal.

This gives us a key to receiving from God when we go to Him for healing. Healing is something that the Lord offers **freely** outside of our performance to earn it or deserve it. Many come to God and ask for healing but they think they must have something to do with earning it by their performance. Many will come to the Lord believing that since they go to church and tithe and read their bible and pray every day that the Lord should heal them. Others, who have failed to do these things, have their faith crippled. They believe their sins have forfeited the healing. No, healing is part of the salvation package from God. It is offered by grace through faith. You can do nothing to merit it and you can do nothing dismerit it. What was purchased on the cross by the finished work of Christ is offered by the grace of God. It is appropriated by simple faith. You just need to accept the healing as yours outside of what your feelings say about it.

Healing is the children's bread. Children do not have to perform or earn their food. **At least they shouldn't!** A good parent provides food and bread to their children because they were born to them and they are loved. No child should be sent to bed without food because of disobedience. No good parent does that! God is the same way! He will not withhold “the children's bread” from you, even if you have not obeyed Him perfectly. Now, just like a parent, God desires that we be obedient, but He does not withhold bread to you because of your imperfect performance! If we have a problem receiving from God it is a faith problem. God has provided healing by grace. By His stripes you WERE healed. **1 Peter 2:24** This was a fact before you were ever born or got sick. This should tell us that it has nothing to do with our performance then! We have been healed by His stripes. We just need to believe it and receive it. It is the children's bread! Come and eat!