

Faith That Perseveres

“Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.” Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.” The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said. He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.” “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.” Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.”

- *Matthew 15:21-28 (NIV)*

We live in the Age and Era of Offence

A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.” - *Matthew 15:22 (NIV)*

Jesus did not answer a word. - *Matthew 15:23 (NIV)*

So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.” *Matthew 15:23*

Never project the nature of man onto the character of God

He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.” - *Matthew 15:24 (NIV)*

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel. As you go, proclaim this message: ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give. - *Matthew 10:5-8 (NIV)*

The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said. He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.” *Matthew 15:25-26 (NIV)*

“Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.” Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.” - *Matthew 15:27-28 (NIV)*

There is Power in Perseverance!

- What’s the need I have to keep bringing to Jesus?
- Where am I close to stepping out, stepping back, where I need to move towards, move in faith?
- Who can I get round me to stand with me and persevere?

- What would Jesus say about your faith when it comes to perseverance?