

Study Notes and Questions for Matthew Chapter Eight

- Note that in 8:1–4, the man afflicted with leprosy never questioned Jesus' ability to heal, but rather His willingness to heal. Do you think people share this same doubt today? Why?
- Why did Jesus instruct the healed man to “show [himself] to the priest”?
- Why do you think Jesus instructed the man not to tell anyone what had happened?
- What is the most significant thing about the Centurion who asked Jesus to heal his servant?
- Why do you think the level of faith expressed by the Centurion is so rare?
- What is the primary message that Jesus was conveying in verses 11 and 12?
- Matthew 8:17 says that Jesus' healing ministry fulfilled Isaiah 53:4. What did he want his readers to see?
- What is the most important thing to understand from Jesus' interaction with the two men who expressed a desire to be His disciples?
- How would you explain to someone the difference between the requirements to be a disciple of Jesus and the requirements to be a born-again Christian?
- Why do you think Jesus allowed His disciples to endure a storm at sea? What does that tell you about how God uses life experiences to teach us important lessons?
- How could this situation be used by Jesus to help prepare his men for the future?
- What questions did the two demon-possessed men address to Jesus (8:28–29)? How did their questions identify Jesus?
- How does this story help you understand Satan's goals with humankind?
- What do you learn about Jesus knowing that He went to the region of the Gadarenes that was so lost?