

Higher Things

DARE TO BE LUTHERAN

Amen: Bible Study II

ST. MATTHEW 15:21-28

1. Who comes up to Jesus? How is she described? (v. 21)
2. The Lord gave the land of Canaan into the hands of the Israelites (Jos. 24:11). They were Gentiles. How do you think the Jews felt about the Gentiles? (St. Mark 2:16)
3. Why does this woman of Canaan come to Jesus? (v. 22) What does she say to him? How does she address Him? (v. 22)
4. Isn't "Son of David" a Jewish title? Why would a Canaanite woman call him that?
5. How did Jesus respond to her? (v. 23) What was the reaction of the disciples (v.24)? What do you think of Jesus' reaction?
6. When Jesus responds, what does He say? Who are His sheep? Who are not? What does this say about the Canaanite woman?
7. What's her reaction? (v. 25) What would your reaction be?

8. Then, it gets worse! What does He say to her next? (v. 26) What did she want in the first place? What does He call her?

9. *Kunarium* is the Greek word for “dog.” Some try to soften Jesus' harsh words by saying that *kunarium* is a “house” or “lap dog.” Do you think this helps? How would you feel if Jesus called you a *kunarium*?

10. Then, the Gospel. What does the Canaanite woman say? What's her reaction to being called a *kunarium* (v.27)?

11. Dr. Luther says that the woman “caught Jesus in His Words.” What's Jesus' reaction to her? (v. 27)

12. Why did the Lord speak to the Canaanite woman this way? (Heb. 4:12, St. Luke 24:46-47)

13. God wants to be worshiped by faith alone, that is, that we receive gifts from Him. Compare this to the faith of the Canaanite woman?

14. What's the “Amen” of today's Bible study?

“The gifts Christ freely gives He gives to you and me To be His church, His bride, His chosen, saved and free! Saints blest with these rich gifts Are children who proclaim That they were won by Christ And cling to His strong name.” (LSB 602, verse 1)