**Supernatural Insights from the Centurion *(sjm 2-32-2025)***

**Matt 1:23 a**nd they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”) ***Gr: Beyond Us or Higher Level***

 *He came to reveal the Father: Didn’t come to conform to us – but gave opportunity for us to be like him*

 Interesting Insights into the Roman Centurion from Matt Chapter 8:

**Eph 5:1** Be ye therefore imitators of Christ “Therefore, imitate God like dearly loved children” “Mimic”

**1 Cor 2:16** The unspiritual self, just as it is by nature, can’t receive the gifts of God’s Spirit. There’s no capacity for them. They seem like so much silliness. Spirit can be known only by spirit—God’s Spirit and our spirits in open communion. Spiritually alive, we have access to everything God’s Spirit is doing. **Isaiah’s question**, “Is there anyone around who knows God’s Spirit, anyone who knows what he is doing?” this has been answered: Christ knows, and we have Christ’s Spirit!

 **Rom 12:2** Do not conform to the pattern to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. *(fully mature or finished)*

**Col 1:13** Delivered from the Power of Darkness and translated into the kingdom of God

 **Scripture provides bold statements (Son’s & Children of God, joint heirs, ambassadors, kings & priests**

 **Luke 10:26** He said unto him, what is written in the law? **how** do **you** read it? *(interpret it)*

**Centurion Story:**

**Matt 8:5** 5And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a **centurion,** beseeching him: *(a strong, bold, public appeal)*

6 & saying, **Lord**, my servant lieth at *home* ***sick of the palsy, grievously tormented*. *(a situation)***

 ***Lord*** *– addressing a person of higher status (Thomas – my Lord and my God)*

 7And Jesus saith unto him, **I will come and heal him***. (to serve, to get help, to heal or cure)*

8The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but **speak the word only,** and my servant shall be healed. *(Lego – spoken word)*

9For I am a **man under authority,** *(in the natural realm)* having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. *(I command and the directions are followed) “servant obeys”!*

***Words are like servants in the spiritual realm***

10When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so **great faith**, no, not in Israel. *(NIV – not find anyone)*

 ***Marveled –*** *wondered, astonished & amazed*

11And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

12But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. *Misplaced trust leads to exclusions*

13And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and **as thou hast believed**, so be it done unto thee. And his **servant was healed in the selfsame hour**.

 **A Roman centurion was a military officer who led a unit of Roman soldiers called a century.  (80-100) Centurions were the backbone of the Roman army and were known for their courage & leadership.**

**Roman soldiers refused to quit – if you beat them in battle, it was only considered a delay until they regrouped & eventually they always won**

**They were quick to innovate and evolved without hesitation**

**They shifted from one area of emphasis to another as priorities needed**

**They could reform or re-strategize the entire military or defense structure on the spot a major strength that cannot be overlooked (knew how to evolve for the times)**

**Known for impressive discipline and command structures (full time professional military)**

**They were the best infantry and calvary on the continent**

**In the Bible, the Roman centurion felt unworthy to have Jesus in his home because of his status as a Roman soldier and his role as an invader of Jewish lands.**

 **The centurion was a trained killer and a member of the Roman ruling forces in Israel. Jewish people hated and feared Roman soldiers.**

**Had Knowledge of Jesus (Soldiers go by fact not hearsay)**

**The centurion recognized Jesus' authority and believed that Jesus could heal his servant.**

**Roman centurions were considered "hardened" soldiers, meaning they were battle-tested veterans with extensive combat experience, often promoted through the ranks due to their proven bravery and leadership skills in battle, making them highly disciplined and capable commanders on the front lines.**

**Responsibilities**

* **Commanded a century of 80–90 soldiers**
* **Ensured that orders from the top were followed**
* **Maintained discipline *(disciplined ones)***
* **Trained the men in their century**
* **Led the men into battle**
* **Assigned duties**
* **Made inspections**
* **Checked that work was done properly**

**Equipment**

* **Centurions often wore a helmet with a distinctive transverse crest made out of horsehair or feathers**
* **They carried their swords on their left-hand side**
* **They carried a vine staff as a symbol of their authority and as a means of dispensing physical corrections**

**Yes, there were multiple Roman soldiers who believed in Jesus, including Longinus and Cornelius.**

**Longinus**

* **Christian legend says that Longinus was a blind Roman centurion who stabbed Jesus with his spear during the crucifixion.**
* **Some say that Jesus' blood fell on Longinus' eyes, healing him.**
* **Longinus then believed in Jesus.**

**Cornelius**

* **Cornelius was a Roman centurion who converted to Christianity, along with his family.**
* **Some Christians believe that Cornelius was the first Gentile to convert to Christianity.**
* **The Catholic Church named Cornelius a saint.**
* **Cornelius' baptism is considered an important event in the early Christian church.**

**Centurion in Matthew 8**

* **In the Bible, there is a story about a Roman centurion who came to Jesus to ask for the healing of his servant.**
* **The centurion had great faith and Jesus commended him for it.**
* **The centurion recognized Jesus' authority.**

**Centurions commanded a unit of around 100 soldiers (most typically 80 soldiers) called a century. Six centuries made a cohort, and ten cohorts made a legion.**