

Dynamics of power and faith in Luke 7.1-10

7.1: Jesus enters Capernaum, recalling 4.31ff, where he encountered a demon-possessed man in the synagogue

7.2: We hear (but don't "see") of a centurion with a "slave" (Greek, *doulos*) whom he feels strongly about (Greek, *entimos*) and who is close to death.

7.3: When the centurion "heard about Jesus," he "apostles" some "Jewish elders" (who are otherwise Jesus' enemies, e.g., 9.22) to seek Jesus' healing presence

7.4-5: the elders act from within a **patron/client relationship** with the centurion, a perspective Luke/Jesus systematically reject (e.g., Lk 22.25-26)

7.6-7: As Jesus approaches the centurion's house, the centurion "apostles" again with "friends" who express an **honor/shame perspective** on behalf of his "child" (Greek, *pais*), which Luke/Jesus systematically reject (e.g., the embrace of lepers, beggars, etc.)

7.8: the centurion, via the "friends," continues to appeal to Jesus on the basis of the centurion's experience with **hierarchical authority**, a perspective which Luke/Jesus systematically reject (e.g., Lk 19.11ff)

7.9: When Jesus hears this "from" the centurion, he is "amazed" and, speaking to the crowd (not to the "friends"), declares that "even in Israel I have not found this much faith"

7.10: the "apostles" return to the centurion's house to find the "slave" (Greek, *doulos*) "in good health."