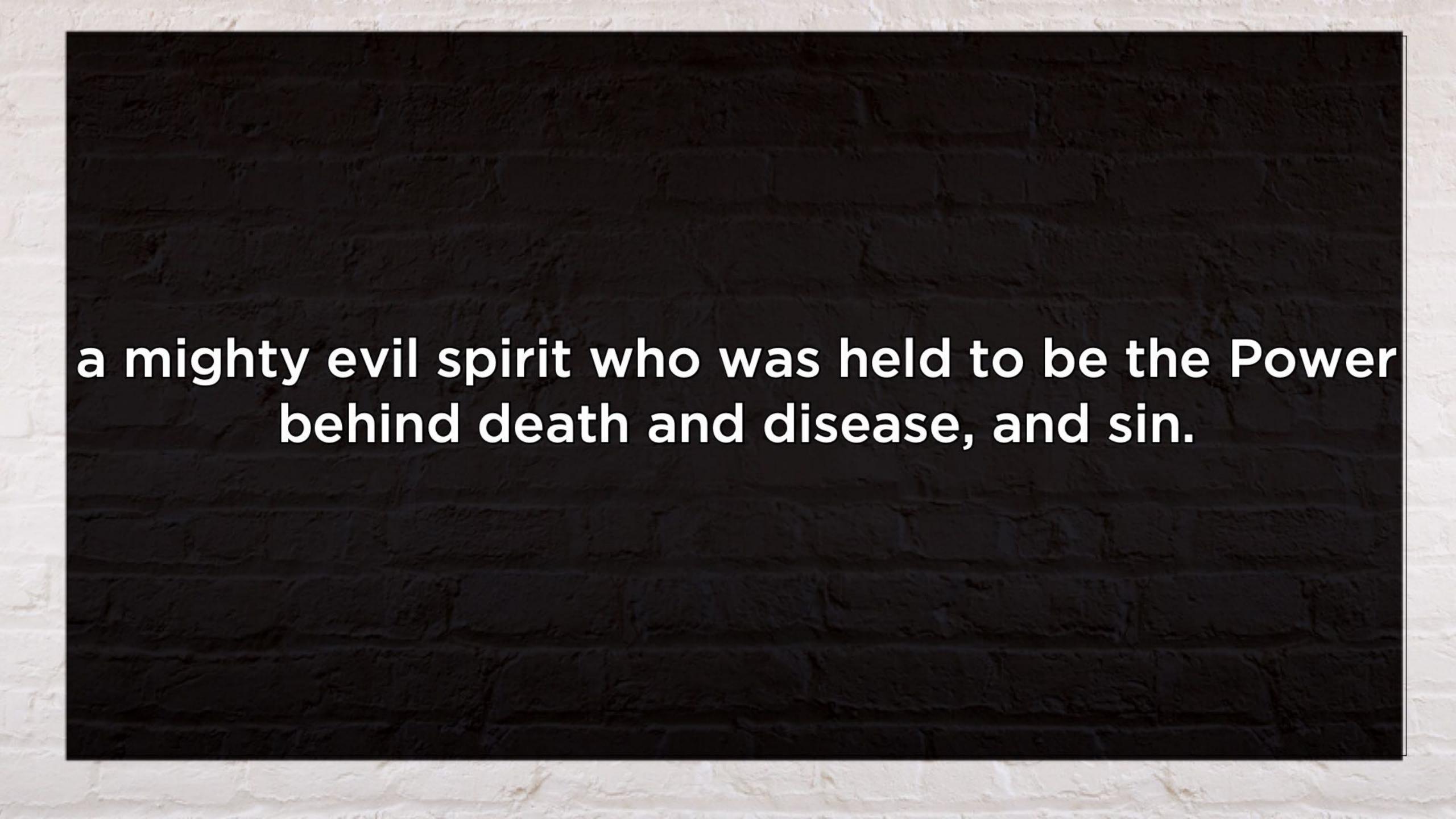


""One of the things that surprised me when I first read the New Testament seriously was that it talked so much about a Dark Power in the universe -



"Enemy-occupied territory--that is what this world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed,

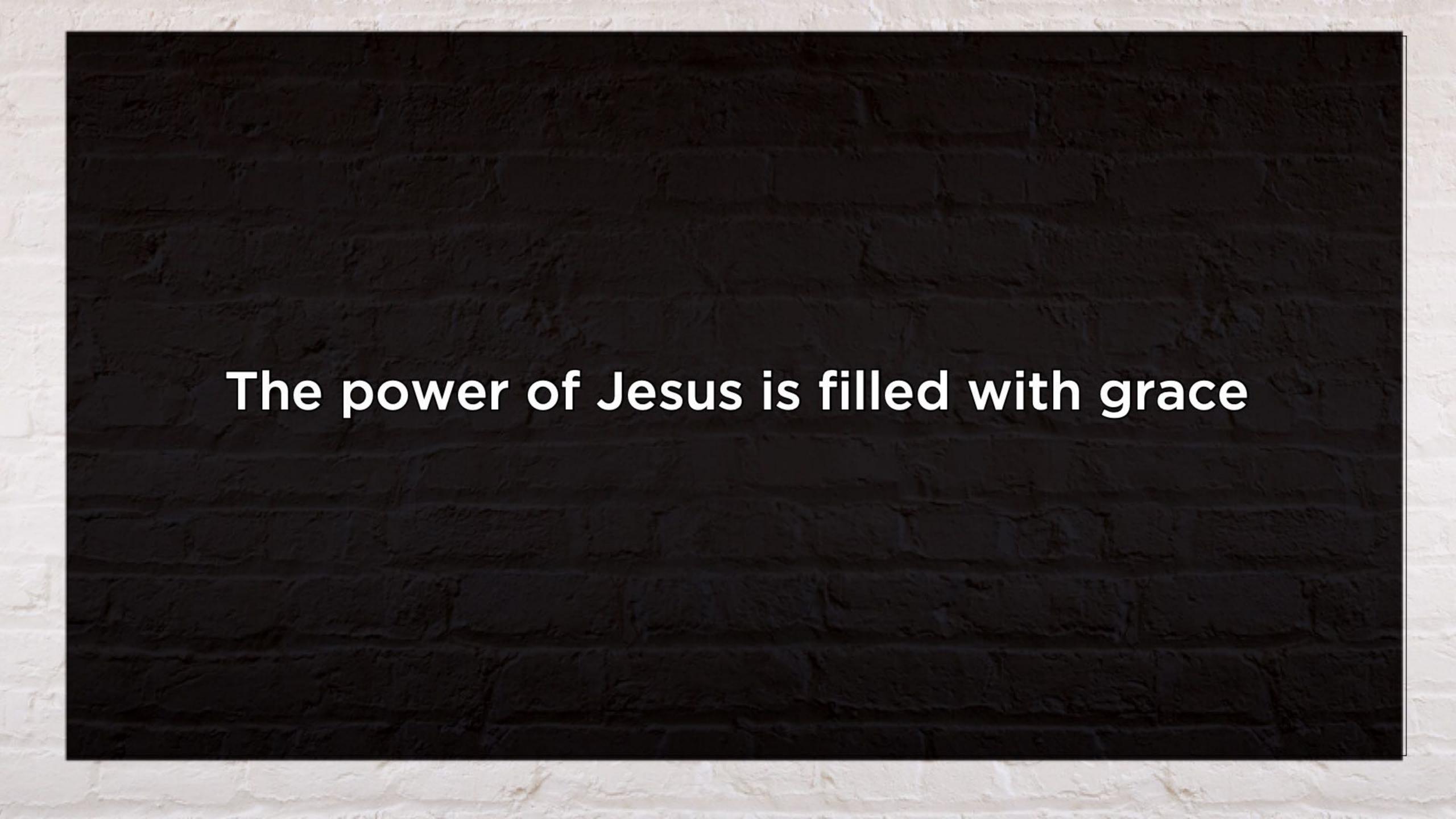
you might say landed in disguise, and is calling us to take part in a great campaign of sabotage." C.S. Lewis

When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were astonished at His teaching,

Matthew 7:28 (CSB)

Because He was teaching them like one who had authority, and not like their scribes.

Matthew 7:29 (CSB)



The power of Jesus is filled with grace... 1. For the sick

When He came down from the mountain, large crowds followed Him.

Matthew 8:1 (CSB)

Right away a man with leprosy came up and knelt before Him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

Matthew 8:2 (CSB)

Reaching out His hand, Jesus touched him, saying, "I am willing; be made clean." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Matthew 8:3 (CSB)

Then Jesus told him, "See that you don't tell anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest,

Matthew 8:4 (CSB)

And offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

Matthew 8:4 (CSB)

The power of Jesus is filled with grace... 2. For the slave

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, pleading with Him,

Matthew 8:5 (CSB)

"Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible agony."

Matthew 8:6 (CSB)

He said to him, "Am I to come and heal him?" Matthew 8:7 (CSB)

"Lord," the centurion replied, "I am not worthy to have You come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed.

Matthew 8:8 (CSB)

For I too am a man under authority, having soldiers under my command. I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another,

Matthew 8:9 (CSB)

'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this!' and he does it."

Matthew 8:9 (CSB)

Hearing this, Jesus was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with so great a faith.

Matthew 8:10 (CSB)

I tell you that many will come from east and west to share the banquet with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of Heaven.

Matthew 8:11 (CSB)

But the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

Matthew 8:12 (CSB)

Then Jesus told the centurion, "Go. As you have believed, let it be done for you." And his servant was healed that very moment.

Matthew 8:13 (CSB)

The power of Jesus is filled with grace... 3. For the second class

Jesus went into Peter's house and saw his mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever.

Matthew 8:14 (CSB)

So he touched her hand, and the fever left her. Then she got up and began to serve Him.

Matthew 8:15 (CSB)

When evening came, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed.

Matthew 8:16 (CSB)

He drove out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick,

Matthew 8:16 (CSB)

So that what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

Matthew 8:17 (CSB)

He himself took our weaknesses and carried our diseases.

Matthew 8:17 (CSB)