

THE GREAT WENCHOSTER BIBLE

Mark 7: 24-37

24. And from thence He arose, and left Galilee and returned into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and the disciples did wonder at their going around in circles, but none dared question Him about this. And when they arrived they entered into an house, and the owner did welcome them and would send out for a takeaway, but Jesus would have no man know of it and did say they would eat what was in the home: but He could not be hid and the neighbours did bring pots of stew and fresh cheese and bowls of figs and another dish that they were not sure about.
25. And a certain woman known unto the householder and several others who did sit at the town gate (let the reader understand,) whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of Him, and came and fell at His feet, for she did trip over Simon's knapsack he had discarded by the front door and did utter an oath:
26. But since the woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation which none of the had heard of, they did not comprehend her expostulation, but Jesus did understand, for He had a smattering of Koine; and she apologised and besought Him that He would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.
27. But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled, and my disciples here: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs. You do have dogs over there, don't you? Anyway. Think about it – for it is a metaphor. But the woman was not embarrassed one bit.
28. And, folding her arms she answered and said unto Him, Listen! Two can play the metaphor game. Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs. And even of the fragments that are left the cats do savour. Think about that!
29. And He said unto her, Verily, you win. For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter and she shall no longer have night sweats every month. What is your name, by the way? I will call you Berenice.
30. And when she was come to her house, which must have been fairly close by, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed in a dry condition. And she did get up and resume her embroidery, for she was embellishing a robe that was woven without a seam, and it was pleasing unto the eye and would be worth quite a bit.
31. And again, departing from the coasts of Tyre and Sidon, for he was tired of the sand and salt and stalls selling hard sugar confections, He came unto the sea of Galilee, through the midst of the coasts of Decapolis, which is an exceeding long way round. And James did murmur to his brother that he wished the Master would make up his mind where He wanted to be. But Simon had faith in his judgement though Thomas doubted.
32. And they bring unto Him one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech Him to put His hand upon him. And the man did not comprehend what was taking place and did make strange signs with his hands and two fingers, and said, Eh? Phardon?
33. And Jesus took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers into his nose and then his ears, and He spit into the dust, and having wiped His hands touched his tongue which disgusted many;
34. And looking up to heaven in an un-synoptic way He sighed, for he was weary of doing these signs, and saith unto him a word normally reserved for country inns, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened.
35. And straightway his ears were opened and there issued forth a flow of warm wax, and the string of his tongue was loosed and did flutter behind his teeth, and he spake plain. and sayeth, How now am I to make my living? For I did beg in the streets and did receive coin and food

and occasional comforts. Now that is taken away without so much as a by your leave! But his friends dragged him off into the alleyway and urged him in normal voices to be thankful.

36. And Jesus charged them that they should tell no man or woman or anyone: but the more He charged them, so much the more a great deal they published loudly with much exaggeration especially when sitting in the inn or at meat, when it was later told that Jesus has grown new ears for the man from the very stones on the ground,
37. And were beyond measure astonished, saying, Didn't He do well? He maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak, fixed a child at an unspecified distance, and most important of all causeth our wives to produce wholesome meals with which we may be satisfied.