

Series: The Gospel of Mark
"The Lord and the Leper" # 8
Mark 1:40-45
2-12-17 Sun PM

Last week we got a glimpse in the day of Jesus in His teaching and healing ministry. We saw his teaching with authority, casting out an unclean spirit, and healing Peter's mother-in-law and many others.

Each miracle Jesus performed showed two purposes:

1. They validated he was the promised Messiah, the Son of God, and the Savior of the world.
2. They showed Jesus had power over His creation, the devil, demons, disease, and death.

Jesus likely healed many lepers. Yet the NT Gospels detail two occasions in which lepers were restored by Jesus.

1. Here and in Matt. 8:1; Luke 5:12.
2. The ten lepers (Luke 17:12).
3. We have Simon the leper mentioned (Matt. 26:6; Mark 14:3) but it does not say Jesus healed him.

This account is included in three of the gospels and his popularity was such that he had to stay out of the cities. This miracle serves as a powerful analogy of the truth of salvation.

TT- We note three features to this healing:

I. The Leper's Dilemma (v. 40).

1. He was a leper (v. 40a).

The Law in Lev. 13 gave instructions regarding leprosy to protect the other people:

- a. They had to be examined by the priest.
- b. They would be quarantined for 7 days and if it worsened then another 7 days.
- c. If the rash progressed they would be declared unclean.
- d. They would be isolated from society physically, socially, and religiously.

2. The leper came to Jesus (v.40b).

Driven by desperation the man cried out to Jesus for help. He was reverent (kneeling) and called him "Lord" (Luke 5:12).

He recognized he was helpless and unworthy and threw himself to the sovereign lord. He did not presume on Jesus (If you are willing).

We had a dilemma as well- We are spiritual lepers in alienation from God. We came to Him knowing there was nothing we could do about our sin.

We came humbly depending solely on his grace. We recognize him as Lord and Savior and throw ourselves at his grace and mercy.

I. The Leper's Dilemma (v. 40).

II. The Lord's Deliverance (vs. 41-45).

1. Jesus was moved with compassion (v. 41).

Jesus was grieved at the effects of sin in the sin cursed world. He received a touch from the master.

The Lord's love for us in our sin-plighted dead soul caused him to send His Son to die for our sins, in our place, on Calvary.

Eph. 2:4-6, But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, (5) Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) (6) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

2. Jesus heals the leper (v. 42).

No recovery, no rehabilitation, fully, visibly, and totally restored.

We had a spiritual deliverance as well-

3. Jesus commands the leper (vs. 43-44).

Jesus gave him two commands- Tell no one and go to the priest. He began to walk to Jerusalem to be declared clean by the priest.

When we were healed we were given two commands as well- Tell everyone and your righteousness is in me as the one who kept the law.

I. The Leper's Dilemma (v. 40).

II. The Lord's Deliverance (vs. 41-45).

III. The Lord's Dilemma (v. 45).

The frenzy multiplied and Jesus was not able to go to the larger cities anymore with the crowds and expectations.

They were excited about the miracles but not the gospel. People still today search for the sensational rather than the Scriptures rightly interpreted.

Today, He is willing to the willing.

Rom 10:13, For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Rev 22:17, And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.