

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Touched By God"
Luke 5:12-16
Study-16

**All 3 Gospel's record this miracle of the cleansing of a Leper.
Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-16**

Why Did Jesus Perform Miracles?

- 1. Jesus Wanted To Meet Human Need**
Mark 1:41 And moved with compassion, (*Gut Wrenched*)
- 2. The Miracles Were Additional Credentials To Prove Jesus**
"The Son Of God Son Of Man" (Isaiah 29:18-19; 35:4-6) Luke 7:22
- 3. The Miracles Were "Sermons In Action, Living Parables"**
Teaching us about the awfulness of sin, deliverance that is only possible by a miracle of God.

Luke 4:14-9:50 The Ministry Of The Son Of Man:

Thought Of Our Passage: "A Desperate Man Appealing To Jesus In Faith And Humility, Is Touched By God."

- 1. Verse 12 The Need**
- 2. Verse 13 The Touch**
- 3. Verses 14-16 The Directive**

1. Verse 12 The Need

Luke 5:12 While He was in one of the cities,

Context – Luke left off in **Luke 5:1-11**, Jesus instructed the disciples where to find fish, (Miraculous Catch). The miracle was used to call the disciples to catch men.

While He was in one of the cities,

The focus is not the place but the person!

Matthew's Gospel gives the context. **Matthew 8:1 He had come down from the mountain**, The setting follows Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

there was a man covered with leprosy;

Doctor Luke said this man had reached the advanced stage of leprosy. The disease has run its course. Hopeless case, near death.

"Leprosy" is now called "Hansen's Disease."

Missionary/Doctor Paul Brand and others discovered that the disfigurement associated with Hansen's disease comes solely because the body's warning system of pain is destroyed.

There are 3 Types of Leprosy:

1. **"Nodular," or "Tubercular Leprosy"**
2. **"Anesthetic Leprosy" - "Called Progressive Death."**
3. **"Leprosy Proper" - is a mixture of both of these and is the most common of all three.**

The Old Testament Alluded To Leprosy Being More Than A Disease:
The detailed instructions in **Leviticus 13-14**

Deeper Than Skin: Leviticus 13:3

Starts As A Little White Spot Then Spreads: Leviticus 13:5-8

Defiles And Separates: Leviticus 13:44-46

Fit Only For The Fire: Leviticus 13:47-59; Numbers 12:12

Religiously -

Socially - Leviticus 13:45-46

Economically -

Physically -

Mentally -

Leprosy Is A Description Of Sin - It is never said that the **leper was healed** but that the leper was **cleansed**.

The very Laws that condemned Leprosy lacked the ability to remove it as the Law could not remove sin from the sinner. Romans 8:3

4 Things Notable About This Man's Approach To Jesus:

1. **Leper/Sinner Came In Desperation: there was a man covered with leprosy; and when he saw Jesus, Mark 1:40 a leper came to Him, (Leper/Sinner)**

covered with leprosy; That means that the disease had run its course. He was in the final stages. **John 6:37; Matthew 5:3-4**

2. **Leper/Sinner Came In Humility: he fell on his face**
"the act of expressing reverence and honor" **Psalm 51:17**

"Men will Not Be Lost Because They Are Too Bad, But Because They Are Too Proud!" 1 Peter 5:5

- 3. Leper/Sinner Came to Jesus Begging: and implored Him,**
"to call near, invite, invoke call for, desire, entreat, pray."
Must come to Jesus with a deep awareness of sin.

This man came begging because he saw his true condition, covered with Leprosy (Sin) **Romans 10:9-10**

- 4. Leper/Sinner Came To Jesus in Faith: saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." (Awareness Of Sin)**

He had faith that Jesus could do the impossible!

"Lord, the equivalent of calling Jesus, *"God," supreme in authority, controller, master.*" It is the sacred term for God.

"Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." (Awareness Of Sin) The leper did not question Jesus' ability to heal; he came in mercy for His willingness.

Prayer is to be Directed at God but not Directing God!

Lazarus became ill and died. Jesus said, **"it is for God's glory."**
John 11:4. Later, He also told His apostles it was for their benefit so that they may believe. **John 11:15**

One man endured a lifetime of blindness.

"so that the work of God might be displayed in his life." **John 9:3**

The apostle Paul was not relieved of his "thorn in the flesh." He said it was *"to keep me from becoming conceited"* **2 Corinthians 12:7**

2. Verse 13 The Touch

Luke 5:13 And He stretched out His hand and touched him,

Mark 1:41 And moved with compassion,

Literally, "gripped with compassion," or "He was gut-wrenched!"

He stretched out His hand, and touched him, *literally, "to take hold of"*
It was not a superficial touch, but Jesus held him. **2 Corinthians 5:21**

The touch of Jesus says, "No Person Is Untouchable For God."

(Spiritual) saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." It was much more than a physical ailment, but *it involved the heart, not just the body.*

(Physical) And immediately the leprosy left him.

Notice that it said, **immediately.**

1 John 1:7

3. Verses 14-16 The Directive

Luke 5:14 And He ordered him to tell no one, Mark 1:43 He sternly warned him *"This was in your face command, order"* We need to note that Jesus gave this man an order.

"But go and show yourself to the priest, - There had been only 2 people in the O.T. that had been cleansed of Leprosy: Miriam and Naaman. (**Isaiah 29:18-19; 35:4-6**)

and make an offering for your cleansing, just as Moses commanded, This was **Leviticus 14:1-32**

as a testimony to them." The cleansing of leprosy was unheard of. This testimony would scream God's intervention.

Luke 5:15 But the news about Him was spreading even farther, True gratitude is expressed by doing what God commands!

Zeal that lacked in the wisdom of God: Mark 1:45

Some Have Good Motives For Disobeying God's Commands, But It Will Always Result In The Hindering Of God's Plan.

Luke 5:16

Prayer is an acknowledgment of our dependence on God for life and ministry. **Prayerlessness is the believer's declaration of independence from God!**

Application:

1. "Cleansing Of Leprosy Reveals That Jesus, The Son Of Man, Has Power To Deliver From The Defilement Of Sin."
2. "The Leper Approached God On God's Terms: He Came In Desperation, In Humility, Requesting In Faith For Jesus To Cleanse Him, And Jesus Did."
3. "Some Have Good Motives For Disobeying God's Commands, But It Will Always Result In The Hindering Of God's Plan."
4. "Prayerlessness Is The Believer's Declaration Of Independence From God."