



Lesson 19 – “Thou Canst Make Me Clean”

Based on Matthew 8:24; Matthew 9:1-8; Matthew 9:32-34; Mark 1:40-45; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:12-28

1) How was a Leper to act and live?

Leviticus 13:45-46 And the leper in whom the plague is, his clothes shall be rent, and his head bare, and he shall put a covering upon his upper lip, and shall cry, _____, _____. All the days wherein the plague shall be in him he shall be defiled; he is unclean: he shall dwell alone; _____ the camp shall his habitation be.

Of all diseases known in the East the leprosy was most dreaded. Its incurable and contagious character, and its horrible effect upon its victims, filled the bravest with fear. Among the Jews it was regarded as a judgment on account of sin, and hence was called “the stroke,” “the finger of God.” Deep-rooted, ineradicable, deadly, it was looked upon as a symbol of sin.

The law was inflexible in its requirement. Even kings and rulers were not exempt. A monarch who was attacked by this terrible disease must yield up the scepter and flee from society.

2) What brave act did one man do?

Matthew 8:2 And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me _____.

The lepers dared not expect Jesus to do for them what He had never done for any man. There was one, however, in whose heart faith began to spring up. Yet the man knew not how to reach Jesus. Debarred as he was from contact with his fellow men, how could he present himself to the Healer? And he questioned if Christ would heal him. Would He stoop to notice one believed to be suffering under the judgment of God? Would He not, like the Pharisees, and even the physicians, pronounce a curse upon him, and warn him to flee from the haunts of men? He thought of all that had been told him of Jesus. Not one who had sought His help had been turned away. The wretched man determined to find the Saviour. Though shut out from the cities, it might be that he could cross His path in some byway along the mountain roads or find Him as He was teaching outside the towns. The difficulties were great, but this was his only hope.

3) How did Jesus reply?

Matthew 8:3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And _____ his leprosy was cleansed.

Immediately a change passed over the leper. His flesh became healthy, the nerves sensitive, the muscles firm. The rough, scaly surface peculiar to leprosy disappeared, and a soft glow, like that upon the skin of a healthy child, took its place.

4) What did the former leper have to do next?

Matthew 8:4 And Jesus saith unto him, See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a _____ unto them.

The words of Scripture show with what urgency Christ enjoined upon the man the necessity of silence and prompt action. Had the priests known the facts concerning the healing of the leper, their hatred of Christ might have led them to render a dishonest sentence.

5) Did the former leper stay silent after he came back from the Temple? _____



When the man returned to his friends, there was great excitement. Notwithstanding the caution of Jesus, the man made no further effort to conceal the fact of his cure. It would indeed have been impossible to conceal it, but the leper published the matter abroad. Conceiving that it was only the modesty of Jesus which laid this restriction upon him, he went about proclaiming the power of this Great Healer.

Every act of Christ's ministry was far-reaching in its purpose. It comprehended more than appeared in the act itself. So, in the case of the leper. While Jesus ministered to all who came unto Him, He yearned to bless those who came not. While He drew the publicans, the heathen, and the Samaritans, He longed to reach the priests and teachers who were shut in by prejudice and tradition. He left untried no means by which they might be reached. In sending the healed leper to the priests, He gave them a testimony calculated to disarm their prejudices.

6) What did Jesus teach on the Mount of Blessing?

Matthew 5:44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do _____ to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;

7) What lesson did Peter learn from being with Jesus?

1 Peter 3:9 Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a _____.

8) What did Jesus say about the religious leaders?

Psalms 109:5 And they have _____ me evil for good, and hatred for my love.

The same priests who condemned the leper to banishment, certified his cure. This sentence, publicly pronounced and registered, was a standing testimony for Christ. And as the healed man was reinstated in the congregation of Israel, upon the priests' own assurance that there was not a taint of the disease upon him, he himself was a living witness for his Benefactor.

9) Did this miracle bear any fruit?

Acts 6:7 And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the _____ were obedient to the faith.

10) What did Isaiah prophesy about Israel?

Isaiah 1:5-6 Why should ye be _____ any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no _____ in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.

Jesus, coming to dwell in humanity, receives no pollution. His presence has healing virtue for the sinner. Whoever will fall at His feet, saying in faith, "*Lord, if Thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean,*" shall hear the answer, "*I will; be thou made clean.*"

11) What did Jesus do for us?

Galatians 1:4 Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the _____ of God and our Father:

In some instances of healing, Jesus did not at once grant the blessing sought. But in the case of leprosy, no sooner was the appeal made than it was granted. When we pray for earthly blessings, the answer to our prayer may be delayed, or God may give us something other than we ask, but not so when we ask for deliverance from sin.



12) What did the disciple John have to say about it?

1 John 5:14-15 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he _____ us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the _____ that we desired of him.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to _____ us from all unrighteousness.

13) What does Scripture say about an event at Peter's house?

Luke 5:17 And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was _____ to heal them.

The Scribes and Pharisees had come as spies, seeking an accusation against Jesus. Outside of these officials thronged the promiscuous multitude, the eager, the reverent, the curious, and the unbelieving. Different nationalities and all grades of society were represented. *“And the power of the Lord was present to heal.”* The Spirit of life brooded over the assembly, but Pharisees and doctors did not discern its presence.

14) Were the Scribes and Pharisees healed?

Luke 1:53 He hath filled the hungry with good things; and the rich he hath sent _____ away.

15) What amazing thing happened at Peter's house?

Luke 5:18-19 And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him. And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the _____, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus.

The palsied man was entirely helpless, and, seeing no prospect of aid from any quarter, he had sunk into despair. Then he heard of the wonderful works of Jesus. He was told that others as sinful and helpless as he had been healed; even lepers had been cleansed. And the friends who reported these things encouraged him to believe that he too might be cured if he could be carried to Jesus. But his hope fell when he remembered how the disease had been brought upon him. He feared that the pure Physician would not tolerate him in His presence.

16) What did Jesus say to the paralytic man?

Luke 5:20 And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are _____ thee.

The burden of despair rolls from the sick man's soul; the peace of forgiveness rests upon his spirit, and shines out upon his countenance. His physical pain is gone, and his whole being is transformed. The helpless paralytic is healed! the guilty sinner is pardoned!

In simple faith he accepted the words of Jesus as the boon of new life. He urged no further request, but lay in blissful silence, too happy for words. The light of heaven irradiated his countenance, and the people looked with awe upon the scene.

17) How did the Scribes and Pharisees react to this miracle?

Matthew 9:3 And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man _____.



18) How did Jesus respond?

Matthew 9:4-6 And Jesus knowing their _____ said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts? For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk? But that ye may know that the Son of man hath _____ on earth to _____ sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

Then he who had been borne on a litter to Jesus rises to his feet with the elasticity and strength of youth. The life-giving blood bounds through his veins. Every organ of his body springs into sudden activity. The glow of health succeeds the pallor of approaching death. *“And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.”*

19) Jesus came to Earth:

1 John 3:8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might _____ the works of the devil.

John 1:4 In him was life; and the life was the _____ of men.

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more _____.

1 Corinthians 15:45 And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a _____ spirit.

The effect produced upon the people by the healing of the paralytic was as if heaven had opened, and revealed the glories of the better world. As the man who had been cured passed through the multitude, blessing God at every step, and bearing his burden as if it were a feather's weight, the people fell back to give him room, and with awe-stricken faces gazed upon him, whispering softly among themselves, *“We have seen strange things today.”*

Of the healed paralytic: Glad thanksgiving went up from that home, and God was glorified through His Son, who had restored hope to the hopeless, and strength to the stricken one. This man and his family were ready to lay down their lives for Jesus. No doubt dimmed their faith, no unbelief marred their fealty to Him who had brought light into their darkened home.

20) Jesus came to Earth to:

Psalms 103:3-4 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who _____ thy life from destruction; who _____ thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Can you see that you need healing?

Isn't it a wonderful thing that God has left us an avenue to not only be forgiven, but renewed?

When is the time to seek the healing that you need?



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