

# The Miracles Of Jesus

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## The Leper After The Great Sermon

(Mk 1:40-45)

### INTRODUCTION

1. Good Morning
  - a. Greeting...
2. Series of lessons on “The Miracles Of Jesus.”
  - a. Last week we looked at “Catchers Of Men.”
    - i. **Lk 5:1-11** “
  - b. This week we will be looking at “The Leper After The Sermon.”
    - i. **Mk 1:40-45** “
3. This account is found in two of the four gospel accounts.
  - a. It is found in **Mk 1:40-45** and **Mt 8:1-4**.
    - i. Matthew gives us insight into what was going on prior to this leper’s healing.
    - ii. Mark gives us more details of the actual account.
4. As we look into this wonderfully rich miraculous account let us not forget the purpose for these miracles of Jesus being written down.
  - a. That we may grow more mature in our confidence that Jesus is our Savior.
  - b. That we mature in our endurance to fight to the end because Jesus is our Savior.
5. With this in mind let us look at our lesson for this morning.

### I. The Leper’s Miracle

- A. Jesus arrives at one of the cities
  1. Jesus had just recently preached the Sermon on the Mount.
    - i. **Mt 8:1** “
  2. We are not sure which city He is in or where exactly the mountain plain He preached the sermon from.
    - i. We do know Jesus was in Galilee.
    - ii. We do know Jesus was not in Capernaum.
- B. Jesus is approached by a man with leprosy
  1. Leprosy in the Bible simply refers to skin diseases.
    - i. In **Leviticus 13** we find four different cases of suspected leprosy.
      - a. It should be noted that the term leprosy is better translated “skin disease” because it does not really resemble the modern leprosy of today.
      - b. It should also be pointed out that it was the priest responsibility to determine someone clean or unclean.
        1. Their judgment was not based on divine knowledge but rather guidelines.
        2. Thus just because someone received a skin disease did not mean they had sinned.
    - ii. Notice that this man was full of leprosy or skin disease.
      - a. Luke, not Matthew or Mark, points out the degree of the skin disease.
  2. This man implored Jesus to make him clean.
    - i. “Lord, if you will, you can make me clean.”
      - a. Like many with physical ailments he wanted to be healed.

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- C. Jesus reacts to the man's request
  - 1. Jesus reaches out and touched the man.
    - i. Because this man was unclean, meaning he had raw flesh soars all over, he had not been touched for as long as he had had the skin disease.
      - a. Human touch is vital to our makeup as we are social people.
        - 1. Example: Numerous research has shown that babies that have not been physically touched more than just by necessity i.e. to change diapers, feed, etc., have ended up with severe growth delays both physically and mentally.
    - ii. Jesus shows great compassion for this man and his pain.
  - 2. Jesus then tells the man...
    - i. "I will, be clean."
      - a. Notice Jesus didn't have to have firecrackers going off, loud music playing, or elaborate speeches to perform miracles.
- D. Jesus makes a request of the man
  - 1. "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for proof to them."
    - i. Many question why Jesus would do such knowing the excitement this man would have at being made clean. Let us look at some reasons why Jesus would command this man in such a way.
      - a. First Jesus did not want this man telling everyone because His ministry was not about healing the masses.
        - 1. Contrary to what many in the world think Jesus' purpose was not to heal as many as possible it was to teach the "Good News."
      - b. Second Jesus knew this would not allow Him to be able to go into the towns and focus on the teaching rather than the healing.
        - 1. This is of course what happen.
      - c. Third Jesus knew it would take a heavy toll on Him to continue having all those people come to Him for healing.
        - 1. Jesus was human remember and He needed down time to recoup.
- E. The healed leper does not abide by Jesus' charge
  - 1. He goes and tells everyone.
    - i. In fact the text says, "But he went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news..." (**Mk 1:45**).
- F. The leper's disobedience causes great stress on Jesus
  - 1. He would have to almost hide to find any time to recoup.
    - i. Notice the people came from "every quarter" to see Him then.
    - ii. He could not even go into the towns now because of this man's disobedience.

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## II. The Lessons

### A. Christians need to show compassion to those in need

1. Jesus stretched out His hand and touched the man who had not been touch in a long while.
  - i. Why did Jesus do this? He had compassion and pity on the man who was struggling.
    - a. The Greek word here literally means “to be moved as to one’s bowels.”<sup>1</sup>
      1. “...the bowels were thought to be the seat of love and pity”<sup>2</sup>
2. As Christians we need to “show” compassion to those in need of it.
  - i. If we are to be Christ-like we must not only have compassion for those who are in need of compassion but we must show it.
    - a. **He 10:34** “
    - b. **I Pt 3:8** “

### B. Christians need to heed the charge of Christ

1. The Word of God is the charge of Christ and the pattern for man to follow.
  - i. It is the law of Christ.
    - a. **Ga 6:2** “
    - b. **I Co 9:21** “
2. Far too many people know the Bible is God’s Word but not that it is His doctrine or pattern.
  - i. Kevin Pendergrass has recently fallen into this idea unfortunately.
    - a. He states there is no “universal list” i.e. “universal doctrine” in God’s Word that fellowship can be established upon.
      1. I am in the process of finding out if He believes every Christian must believe Jesus is our Savior and that every Christian must believe God’s Word is inspired by God.
      2. All Kevin has to do is agree with one of these or anything like it and his doctrine is found to be false.
        - i. Why because He already thinks every Christian must believe there is no universal list and if he believes every Christian must believe only one more thing he is proven to be false in his assertion.
  - ii. The New Testament is Christ’s doctrine for all Christians.
    - a. **II Jn 9** “
  - iii. The New Testament is Christ’s pattern for all Christians.
    - a. **II Ti 1:13** “
    - b. **Ro 6:17** “

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<sup>1</sup> Thayer, J. H. (1889). *A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament: being Grimm’s Wilke’s Clavis Novi Testamenti*. New York: Harper & Brothers.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

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- C. Christians need to recoup and recharge
1. There is no doubt that Christians are to be the hardest working people on earth.
    - i. Physically we are to be.
      - a. **Ec 9:10** “
    - ii. Spiritually we are to be.
      - a. **I Co 9:27** “
      - b. **Ph 2:12** “
  2. However Christians also need to recharge their batteries each day.
    - i. We do this by having alone time with God.
      - a. **Lk 5:16** “
    - ii. We do this by studying God’s Word.
      - a. **II Ti 4:13** “
    - iii. We do this by have recreational time alone or with others.
      - a. **Mk 6:31** “
- D. Thus...
1. What we find here are many great lesson by which all Christians should apply to their lives.

### CONCLUSION

1. Brethren, the healing of the leper ought to encourage us to...
  - a. Show compassion for those in need.
  - b. Heed the doctrine of Christ.
  - c. Recoup and recharge so as not to burn out.
2. Question: Are you heeding the doctrine of Christ in your life?
  - a. If so continue therein and grow thereby.
  - b. If not why not?
3. Invitation
  - a. For those that are Christians but are not living for Christ repent and confess your transgression before God so He can forgive you and bear fruit of repentance by dedicating the rest of your life for Him.
    - i. **I Jn 1:7, 9** “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”
  - b. For those that are not Christians or for those that think they are Christians and want to know for sure notice what is required for you to become a child of God.
    - i. Hear/Study God’s Word **Rom 10:17**
    - ii. Have Faith In Jesus **Heb 11:6; Jn 3:16; Jn 14:15**
    - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:3**
    - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32**
    - v. Obey The Gospel **I Cor 15:1-4; Rom 6:3-5**