

Mark 1:40-45

3 Methods For Having A Biblically Clean Life



Context/Background

- Mark continues to show Jesus' Galilean Ministry; this around Sea of Galilee in N. Israel
- Very busy and successful time for Jesus and new Disciples
- Here, introduced to man with leprosy; one of greatest horrors of ancient world
- Word in Bible, refers to all types of skin diseases, including the worst, Hansen's Disease (Bacillus)
- Pain in joints, discolored patches of skin that become sores, ultimately rotting away of skin and appendages
- In Jesus' day, seen as curse from God, person ostracized

Honestly Seeking Relationship With Jesus

- (vv.40-42) Jesus building Kingdom of God; approached by man who cries out for cleansing and healing from leprosy
- Man suffering and cut off from all aspects of society; life a nightmare
- Condition regulated by Law (Leviticus 13 & 14); very specific instructions
- Man kneels as sign of worship; doesn't question Jesus' ability, only His willingness
- Jesus, I know You CAN, but WILL You?
- Man reaches out for relationship with Jesus and He responds with compassion and cleansing

- Isaiah 55:3, “Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you – the sure mercies of David.”
- Acts 16:31, “...’Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved’,...”



Applying The Bible In Everyday Life

- (vv.43-44) Jesus performs great miracle; shows Himself to be the Messiah
- Jesus used very, very, strong language to instruct man: don't speak about miracle, follow God's Word about this situation, give testimony to what Bible has to say about
- (Leviticus 13 & 14) very detailed explanations about dealing with leprosy and person's return to society; very involved
- For this man cleansing was instant and unmistakable; man's cleansing/healing was connected to God's Word
- Same with us; Bible helps us deal with temptations and guides us to better please Jesus

- Ps. 119:9-11, “How can a young man cleanse His way? By taking heed according to Your word. With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You!”



Trusting In Jesus' Provision

- (v.45) Mark shows interesting development; can identify with man's reaction
- Healing goes, "viral!"; shares news with everyone, everywhere
- This creates difficulty for Jesus; the man completely disobeys Jesus and creates hardship in ministry of Jesus
- Because of great crowds (masses of sick and leprous) Jesus no longer able to go into towns and synagogues
- Man didn't obey or understand all about Jesus; but Jesus didn't rebuke or revoke healing
- Jesus responded with grace/compassion and His provision

- Phils. 1:6, “...being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”
- Phils. 3:14, “I press toward the goal for the prize for the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

