

THE TOUCH THAT MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Mat 14:36 And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.

1. They were reflecting upon the ceremonial law of Moses:

Num 15:38 Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribbon of blue:

Num 15:39 And it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the LORD, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own heart and your own eyes, after which ye use to go a whoring:

Num 15:40 That ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God.

2. The Touch that made the Difference:

Mar 3:10 For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues.

Mar 3:11 And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God.

Mat 9:20 And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind *him*, and touched the hem of his garment:

Mat 9:21 For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.

Mat 9:22 But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

Luk 6:18 And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed.

Luk 6:19 And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed *them* all.

3. **God has always had areas that were place off limits for the people of God.**

Gen 3:3 But of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

Gen 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

Exo 19:12 And thou shalt set bounds unto the people round about, saying, Take heed to yourselves, *that ye go not* up into the mount, or touch the border of it: whosoever toucheth the mount shall be surely put to death:

Jos 6:19 But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, *are* consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.

2Co 6:17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,
2Co 6:18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.

4. **Principle taught in the conquering of Jericho:** There were 10 major cities conquered under Joshua leadership. Jericho was the first and the spoils were the first fruits which God said belonged to Him. They were not to touch it, Achan took a wedge of gold and a Babylonian garment which cost him and his family their lives.

Jos 6:18 And ye, in any wise keep *yourselves* from the accursed thing, lest ye make *yourselves* accursed, when ye take of the accursed thing, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it.

Jos 6:19 But all the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, *are* consecrated unto the LORD: they shall come into the treasury of the LORD.

Jos 7:1 But the children of Israel committed a trespass in the accursed thing: for Achan, the son of Carmi, the son of Zabdi, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took of the accursed thing: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against the children of Israel.

Pro 3:9 Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

Pro 3:10 So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

5. **The Touch to follow Godly leadership:**

1Sa 10:25 Then Samuel told the people the manner of the kingdom, and wrote *it* in a book, and laid *it* up before the LORD. And Samuel sent all the people away, every man to his house.

1Sa 10:26 And Saul also went home to Gibeah; and there went with him a band of men, whose hearts God had touched.

6. **The touch gives you victory over your past:**

Gen 32:24 And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

Gen 32:25 And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.

Gen 32:26 And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.

Gen 32:27 And he said unto him, What *is* thy name? And he said, Jacob.

Gen 32:28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

Gen 32:29 And Jacob asked *him*, and said, Tell *me*, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore *is* it *that* thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.

Gen 32:30 And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

WE WERE ALL BORN WITH SERIOUS BIRTH DEFECTS

1. Mankind was born incomplete. In a very real sense, we are all the victims of a serious birth defect.

Psa 51:5 Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

Psa 51:5-6 -

2. David here confesses his hereditary sin as the root of his actual sin. The declaration moves backwards from his birth to conception, it consequently penetrates even to the most remote point of life's beginning.
3. Most of us here are blessed with the five physical senses.
 - a. We can see, hear, smell, feel, and taste. It is difficult to imagine our lives without these senses. They are the window to our world.
 - b. Imagine if you have never seen, you could hear me, but you had no reference point, no idea what a human face looked like, the movement of expression, the emphasis of gestures, not able to see the complexity of a crowd, the colors of a room. Red is only a concept, Blue an imagination.
4. It is almost unimaginable to think of the world completely cut off. No impulses, no information, no sight, sound, smell, touch or taste. NOTHING. The world itself beyond knowing not distant, simply not there, unreachable.
5. There was and is such a world, and man once was home in it.
 - a. He visited it, or more correctly, it visited him every evening in the cool of the twilight.
 - b. Adam and Eve once welcomed Him. And Walked and talked with God and was able to feel his warmth and presence.
 - c. This was not a strange world to them. They were at home in the environment of the presence of God.
 - d. It was simply part of them
 - e. THEY HAD A SIXTH SENSE: The sixth sense was the ability to recognize the presence of the Lord.
 - f. They heard his voice and felt His presence, they felt His love and approval. And new the joy of being with Him, and walking with him

in his presence.

6. **Sin robbed Man of there Sixth sense: the ability to Feel His Presence;**

- a. I'm not sure it disappeared instantly. When they were driven from the garden, and from His presence, surely in their imagination they could recall the warmth of His presence and His Love.
- b. But, Unused, It soon Shriveled and Died
- c. Until man was so out of touch that other world, and the world that they now lived in was filled continually with evil and only one man, Noah, had even the dimmest perception of God and His ways.
- d. Through the centuries, man has had an incomplete perception of God's presence .

7. Through the centuries, has an incomplete perception of God's. Like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, the sensed Him, but didn't always understand Him, but their sense of His presence made them great.

a. Jacob:

Gen 28:16 And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew it not.

Gen 28:17 And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful is this place! this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.

b. Job:

Job 23:2 Even today is my complaint bitter: my stroke is heavier than my groaning.

Job 23:3 Oh that I knew where I might find him! that I might come even to his seat!

c. When we do not know the Lord, we are blind spiritually and are void of spiritual understanding. And in hopelessness.

Isa 59:10 We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if

we had no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men.

8. The New Testament: We have found Him!

Joh 1:45 Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith unto him, We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.

9. This is why Jesus says we must be born again:

- a. We are now brought back into the presence of God
- b. All things become New
- c. It gives us the sixth sense we were born without.
- d. Suddenly we recognize the presence of a whole new world.
- e. Found a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.

Act 17:27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

Psa 16:11 Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore.

Heb 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.