

The Story of Jesus: He Healed 10 Lepers

(Lesson 83)

Introduction:

1. According to 2 Peter 3:18, growing in the knowledge of Christ is an important responsibility that deserves our careful attention.
2. Jesus gave the key to achieving this growth in John 5:39.
 - a. He said, "*search the Scriptures.*"
 - b. He continued by stating that the Scriptures testify of Him.
3. As we examine the Lord's ministry we see that He healed people of numerous diseases, including leprosy (Matthew 4:23-25; 9:35; 11:4-6).
4. Many people served the Lord as a result of His healing (Luke 8:1-3).
5. In our lesson we are studying the occasion when Jesus healed 10 lepers (Luke 17:11-19).
6. As we do so, let us more fully appreciate the role that "being thankful" plays in our service to the Lord.

Discussion:

- I. (vs.11) JESUS WAS ON HIS WAY TO JERUSALEM
 - A. He had a very special purpose for going to Jerusalem (Luke 18:31-33).
 - B. As Jesus traveled toward Jerusalem "*He passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee*" [probably along the borders of these 2 areas].
 - C. On the way to Jerusalem, . . .
- II. (vs.12) JESUS ENTERED A VILLAGE WHERE 10 LEPERS MET HIM
 - A. These poor men suffered from a horrible disease.
 - B. Because of their disease they had to be separated from other people.
 1. They "*stood afar off.*"
 2. This was according to God's law (Leviticus 13:45-46).
- III. (vs.13) THESE MEN CRIED OUT FOR JESUS TO HAVE MERCY ON THEM
 - A. This was not the first time for Jesus to be approached by a leper (Luke 5:12-15).
 - B. Perhaps these men had heard that Jesus could cure leprosy.
 - C. Jesus heard their cry for mercy, and . . .
- IV. (vs.14) JESUS TOLD THEM TO SHOW THEMSELVES TO THE PRIESTS
 - A. The Israelites who were suspected of having leprosy were to be brought to the priests (Leviticus 13).
 - B. The priests would diagnose the problem to determine if it was leprosy.
 - C. As these men were going to the priests they were cleansed of their leprosy.
- V. (vs.15-16) ONE OF THE MEN, A SAMARITAN, RETURNED TO EXPRESS HIS APPRECIATION TO JESUS
- VI. (vs.17-19) JESUS COMMENDED THIS MAN'S FAITH
- VII. APPLICATION:
 - A. Jesus demonstrated His love for this man by healing his leprosy -- his gratitude for what Jesus did led him to offer praise to God.
 - B. God and Christ have shown us how much they love us (Isaiah 53:4-6) -- when we appreciate what they have done for us we should be motivated to serve them in return.