

The Saviour Comes and Begins His Work

This week – The Lord Jesus Christ shows miraculous ability to heal our physical and spiritual ills.

**Behold, there came a leper and worshipped Him, saying,
“Lord, if Thou wilt,
Thou canst make me clean.”** *Matthew 8v2*

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Matthew 8v1-17 (The Lord heals the leper and many others)	
Monday	Mark 1v40-45 (Mark’s account of the leper’s healing)	
Tuesday	Matthew 9v1-17 (The Lord heals many others, calls Mathew)	
Wednesday	Philippians 1v1-11 (Christ - compassionately humble)	
Thursday	John 3v1-21 (v16 The compassionate God – A Saviour)	
Friday	John 11v14-29 (Jesus waited 4 days before going to Lazarus)	
Saturday	John 11v30-45 (Jesus wept for Lazarus, restored his life)	

Important Lesson for us Today. God shows His compassion. We remind ourselves that the scriptures teach us that God is perfectly holy and that He has a holy hatred for sin. He **must** judge our sin; and no sinner can enter Heaven with their sin. The Bible also teaches us of His compassionate heart - that He has love and mercy toward lost sinners. He has demonstrated His love to sinners by sending His own Son, Jesus Christ, to bear away the guilt of our sin on the cross. The Lord Jesus willingly, and compassionately, took upon Himself God’s Eternal wrath; Eternal punishment which should rightly fall to us. His death was fully sufficient to reconcile us to God, (bring us to peace with God). God the Holy Spirit works in the sinner’s soul to give them faith to believe, bringing them to repentance and obedience. **There cannot be greater love and compassion than this!** **What is our response? Will we live ignoring it? OR will we respond to His gracious call?**

Hymn 695 – A hymn asking the Lord to help us pray correctly, with humility and respect.

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| <p>1. Lord, teach us how to pray aright,
With reverence and with fear;
Though dust and ashes in Thy sight,
We may, we must draw near.</p> <p>3. God of all grace, we come to Thee
With broken, contrite hearts;
Give what Thine eye delights to see;
Truth in the inward parts.</p> | <p>2. Burdened with guilt, convinced of sin,
In weakness, want and woe,
Fighting’s without, and fear within;
Lord, whither shall we go?</p> <p>5. Faith in the only sacrifice
That can for sin atone;
To cast our hopes, to fix our eyes,
On Christ, and Christ alone.</p> |
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The Lord Jesus Heals A Leper.

- **Leprosy** – A Fatal Disease; Very common when the Lord lived on earth.
 - **Infectious** – Easily caught from others through touching and close contact.
 - **Disfiguring** – Flesh eaten away; loss of feeling; hands and feet easily burnt.
 - **A Slow Death** – Deteriorating over many years. **Warning, ‘Unclean, Keep away’.**
- **The Lord used it as a picture** to show us the deadly threat of sin in our lives.
 - **In God’s sight** our sinful hearts are unclean, infectious, disfiguring, and fatal.
 - Our Sin - Lies, deceit, pride, love of self, bad-temper, hateful, disobedient, lust, taking from God, rebellious, ignoring God in unbelief. A critical, unthankful spirit.
 - **One Difference** – Sin is within us from birth; we inherit our sinful nature from Adam.

Our sin is catching, one sin quickly leads to another, getting worse the longer we live. We need to be saved from our sin before it drags us down to Hell, under God’s wrath.

○ **Let Us Consider The Leper And How He Approached The Lord:**

1. **He Came – Why?** He saw his great need; his horrible, and helpless position. ***Have you seen a need to come to Jesus Christ? The only One who can heal us.***
2. **He Worshipped** – Having heard the Lord’s teaching and, seeing His powerful and miraculous healings, he knew and believed that He was God.

Have you worshipped Jesus Christ? Do you see Him as Almighty God, your Creator? Do you believe He died to save you, and thank Him for His death for your sin on Calvary?

3. **He Trusted** – He said, ***“If Thou wilt, Thou canst make me clean.”*** *Matthew 8v2* ***Have you trusted Jesus Christ? Do you believe He can save you from the guilt of your sin? The Leper felt unworthy, asking himself “Would God save a wretch like me?” So must we.***

4. **He Was Healed** – The Lord touched him saying, ***“Be thou clean.”*** *Matthew 8v3* ***How simple, powerful, and wonderful! The Lord is able to save all who call out to Him. No one is too polluted or vile in their sin such that they cannot be forgiven and saved. Today, the miraculous work of God the Holy Spirit is to change sinful hearts (the gift of faith), such that we hate sin, turn from it in repentance, living with obedient love to God. Have you repented your sin and been forgiven by Jesus Christ? Have you peace with God?***

The Lord was willing to touch the unclean leper to heal him. **He also forgave him. Likewise,** He was willing to suffer the agony of crucifixion, and to take the wrath of His Father upon Himself, (the eternal wrath that we deserve), to save us. ***“He, (the Lord Jesus Christ), who knew no sin, became sin for us by taking our sin upon Himself (as if it were His own), that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.”*** *2 Corinthians 6v21* ***He takes our guilt away and gives us His righteousness.***

Are you, “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.” ***Hebrews 12v2.***

The Apostle John wrote, ***“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.”*** *John 1v7.*