

**” *Jesus Healed Me* ”**

Scripture: *John 5:9-15*

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**I. Introduction**

How many years were you sick? How long were you waiting to be healed? What were you taught to believe “You” had to do so that you would be healed? Do you know who it was that healed you? Do you now go back to doing the things you were doing before you were healed or worse before you realized you were sick?

In the passages that we study today, the physical healing of an invalid at the Pool of Bethesda gives revelation of the greater gift of healing for the sin sick souls of humankind.

**II. The Lesson: “Jesus Healed Me”**

1. **vv. 9a.** This verse has been split into two distinct statements:

- (a) “At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked”, and
- (b) “The day on which this took place was a Sabbath”.

The man whose name is not given but is known only by the description of his condition and the length of his illness is healed. This man who had been unable to carry his own body weight for 38 years is suddenly cured of his infirmity! The man did not appear to know who Jesus was but accepted the Lord’s words as factual. He exercised faith in the words that Jesus spoke. Jesus did not say to him, as in many other instances, you are healed, but gave him instruction that should he act in obedience to, would show clear evidence of the power that Jesus had in His words to heal. Here we must recognize the power of the Son of God to give life or to heal whomever He wills. Herein is found “Grace” given to this man by Jesus and “Faith” exemplified by obedience to the spoken word of the Christ.

2. **vv. 9b-11**. No doubt these Jewish leaders are referring to the words of the Lord as spoken by the prophet Jeramiah at 17:21 as the authoritative law regarding the carrying of loads on the Sabbath.

However, Jesus said in Mark 27-28, “The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. Therefore, the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath,” and to the Pharisees in Mark 3:4 before the man with the shriveled hand was healed. Jesus said, “Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?” By creating many laws that defined work, religious leaders made the Sabbath a burden instead of a blessing. This man however, has been healed by the spoken word of Jesus and thus recognizes Jesus, the One that healed him, as the true authority. He was obedient to the will of Jesus by acting on His word (on the Sabbath). Isn’t this the stance we should take as believers? We should not be so willing to accept, to fall in line with whatever the world expresses as acceptable but continue living within the will of God despite the possibility of others being in disagreement.

3. **vv. 12-13**. You might ask, did this man lose sight of the very person that had made such a miraculous change in his circumstance?

Is this not what happens more often than not to a great number of new converts (and even some more experienced Christians). The newness of the conversion, the realization of our answered prayers overtakes our ability to see the “***One***” that is responsible for our new and/or improved situation. Although this man has suddenly been made whole following an excruciating 38 year physical malady he didn’t think to ask who Jesus was? It seems he didn’t care to know who Jesus was but was only interested in his new found wellness. He did not seek to identify the healer or show gratitude for the great gift of life that was freely given to him. Let’s not take the gift of grace for granted that we have been afforded by Christ’s sacrifice, but daily give praise and thanksgiving for the “***Gift and the Giver***” by seeking to know Jesus in a more personal and perfect way. Because of the grace that was given we should be compelled to have greater knowledge and a more personal relationship with Christ, the “***Giver***”.

4. **vv. 14-15**. *“See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.”*

The healed man had known what it was like to have good health; to have all of his physical capabilities intact and functional. However to persist in sin would jeopardize the works which Jesus has performed. Although this former invalid appeared to have little interest in knowing who healed him, Jesus is certainly concerned for him. Jesus found him! Those few words give the indication that Jesus was looking for him. There was an even greater gift than his physical healing that the Lord had for him. Jesus wanted his “Soul” to be healed as well as his body. That’s “Good News”! ***The Lord is not through with me yet!*** Jesus affirms his healing but warns to continue in sin may reverse and a far greater malady could befall him.

This is a warning to all; following our being healed from a sin sick soul we must turn away from our old sinful nature. We cannot continue to do the things we know are an abomination to God the Father. We must repent and be freed from our former selves. Just as this man acted immediately to pick up his mat and walk we must act in the same manner regarding our sin. We must pick up the banner of Christ and walk.

Jesus found this man while he was still living in sin, yet He was healed. Jesus made him well! But what good is a healthy and well body if his soul is doomed to an eternity in Hell! Jesus found each of us in the same manner, yet He healed our sin, sick souls and freed us from the bonds of sin! Jesus makes us well!

Jesus heals to eternal life!