

THE GOSPEL *of* JOHN

CHAPTER 5:1-15

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-373 MAY 14, 2000

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“Do You Want to be Made Well”

THE THEME OF BOOK:

John 1:12

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Compassion, Healing, Bethesda,

Do You Want to be Made Well

The compassionate, healing, and caring ministry of Jesus Christ

The Friendship between Archeology and the Bible is always welcome. For those who have visited Israel with us, you will remember that within the old city walls on the northeast side of the city is Saint Ann’s Church with its world renown acoustics. As you walk out of Saint Ann’s just a 100 feet or so is to the north is the newly excavated pools of Bethesda. These pools are very near the Sheep Gate in the Old City (Neh.3:1 & 12:39) just as your Bible teaches. It is at these pools that for decades, maybe centuries, people gathered with hopes of being healed by what would happen there.

1.) *Do you want to be made well*

vv. 1-6

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had. 5 Now a **certain man** was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "**Do you want to be made well?**"

a.) Jesus wants to help

v.1-2

After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the **Sheep Gate** a pool, which is called in Hebrew, **Bethesda**, having five **porches**

Archaeology and the Bible

Guess How Many Porches Were Unearthed at Bethesda?
(It Wasn't 4 and It wasn't 6)

Jesus and The Sheep Gate

1 Corinthians 5:7-8

unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

John 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

Bethesda

Beth = House of and Easda or El'eh'asa = Mercy

The House of Mercy and Compassion

Jesus wants to help

b.) Jesus is willing to help

v.3-4

In these lay a **great multitude** of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had.

Was This Just
An Old and Long Believed in Story?
Behind the Scenes

I believe Jesus is communicated to us a deep truth here.

That the law can only help those who need it the least. However those who needed extra care and compassion found nothing in the Law for them

Matthew 9:12-13

and Jesus said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, (those who self-righteous) but those who are sick (aware of their internal sinfulness). 13 "But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice.' For I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

The Wreck of the Rio de Janeiro

In the 1940's The Rio de Janeiro tries to enter San Francisco harbor in a dense fog but ran against the rocky coast. Hundreds of people Drown, Some Swam for hours in the fog until rescued, But one man, with broken arms and legs floated until, in due time, help arrived.

Romans 5:6

For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

c.) *Jesus is waiting to help*

v.5-6

Now a **certain man** was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him,

"Do you want to be made well?"

a certain man

Do You Think Jesus was Going to Jerusalem to attend the Feast or was Jesus going there because of a **certain man**?

THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS

Thirty-eight years - longer than Jesus had been on earth

38 YEARS IS A LONG TIME

sometimes it takes thirty years to empty a man of himself

Life Guards Here in Southern California

Will tell you that when someone is drowning they will often swim in the vicinity of the drowning man until he begins to drown and go under because if there is any self-strength in the man he, in his panic, can drown both of them.

38 years had to come to pass before this man was ready to receive
from the Lord

1.) Do you want to be made well	vv. 1-6
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2.) Do you realize you cannot save yourself	vv. 7
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The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.

a.) You cannot depend upon yourself to save you	v.7
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The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up

My Mother Would Always Say
"God Helps Those Who Help Themselves"

The sick man answered Him

~~YES !!!~~

He Answers By Way of an Excuse
His will as paralyzed as his body

"Sir, I have no man
(I'm Broke)

I've Been Waiting for 38 Years – I have no man

they slept near the pool. they would listen for the moving of the water, they would watch for it. they didn't know when – but they expected it to happen

b.) You cannot depend upon others to save us v.7

but while I am coming,
another steps down before me.

Look at all these able-bodied people here.

Sure, some guys
are **sick people**, some are **blind**, there are even a few **lame** folk, but I'm
paralyzed

There's those Sick guys - are sneezing and Barfing *But they can move pretty fast*

There's The blind people – those guys can almost hear the water before it moves.

There's those lame guys who have it better than me
because even when there's no angel stirring the water. They just fall in from time to time and some of em'get lucky

Then there are the paralyzed guys like me
They all have friends and family to push them into the pool

I Have None of These Advantages

Sir, - What I Need is a Really Good Pusher

Someone who can Shove - A man stronger than I am, and Bigger too!
It would be great if he could even watch and listen for the moving of the water for me
as well - that would be great

1.) Do you want to be made well	vv. 1-6
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2.) Do you realize you cannot save yourself	vv. 7
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3.) Do you want to do what Jesus says to do	vv. 8-15
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8 Jesus said to him, "**Rise, take up your bed and walk.** 9 And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. 10 The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed." 11 He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" 12 Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" 13 But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in that place. 14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "**See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.**" 15 The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

a.) He always gives what we need	v.8-9
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Jesus said to him, "**Rise, take up your bed and walk.**
9 And immediately the man was made well,

Was it possible for him to walk? - NO!

Humanly - Was Jesus' Command Logical? - NO!

The Lord Will Always Command Us to Do
What We Cannot Do Ourselves

Matthew 14:25-29

Now in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went to them, walking on the sea. 26 And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." 28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." 29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus.

Peter Needed to Walk on that Water

(for what was coming in peter's life - he needed to walk on the impossible)

b.) Jesus asks for what is reasonable

v.9-13

took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath. 10 The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed."

11 He answered them, "He who made me well said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" " 12 Then they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" 13 But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn,
a multitude being in that place.

Verse 9

So the man took up his bed, and walked

He Didn't Need to Learn How to Walk – He just Walked!

Walked grk 4043 peripateo (per-ee-pat-eh'-o);
to tread all around, to walk at large., to be occupied with, walking everywhere - **To deport oneself**

To deport oneself

Verse 10

The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed."

O.K. – You Carry It

**Bed – This is no Bed, It's a Trophy
Today I got victory over this stinkin'**

The Jews had added to 39 oral restrictions to man's activities on the sabbath.

The Sabbath and Why it Is

Genesis 2:2-3

And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He **rested** from all His work which God had created and made.

Sabbath Heb 7673 shabath (shaw-bath');
To cease and celebrate, to take leave, to relax and to enjoy

As a Christian

When should I **cease** from labor in the Lord? – When should I **celebrate** in the Lord?

– When should I **Relax** in the Lord? – When should I **enjoy** in the Lord?

!!! The Creation Celebration!!!

Job 38:4-7

"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. 5 Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? 6 To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, 7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

Colossians 2:16-17

So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

Mark 2:27-28

And He said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath. 28 "Therefore the Son of Man is also Lord of the Sabbath."

Verse 13

But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had **withdrawn**, a multitude being in that place.

Withdrawngrk

To dodge or to maneuver through

THIS MIRACLE WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE END

John 2:23-24

Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. 24 But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men,

c.) He wants what's best for you

v.14-15

Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "**See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.**" 15 The man departed and **told** the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

Jesus **found** him **in the temple**

Found grk 2147 heurisko (hyoo-ris'-ko);
To perceive, to notice, to become aware of

Jesus Find's Sinners

The Old Preacher came upon a Young man on the street and asked him, Young man have you found Jesus? Why Sir - I didn't know He was lost. But I was and He found me!

Sinners are nowhere called to go and find Jesus
Jesus is always seeking out sinners

Verse 14

and said to him, "**See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.**"

#1

His Sinful Life had Led to his Disability

And

#2

He needed to stop practicing sin still

So The man departed and **told the Jews** that it was Jesus who had made him well.

Isaiah 35:5-6

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth

1.) Do you want to be made well vv. 1-6

2.) Do you realize you cannot save yourself vv. 7

3.) Do you want to do what Jesus says to do vv. 8-15

The End