

DISEASE "The Untouchables" *Luke 5:12-14; 17:11-19* March 23, 2014

THE LEPER

- ✓ He Was <u>Devastated</u>
- ✓ He Was Despised
- ✓ He Was Distanced
- ✓ He Was <u>Dead</u> Spiritually & <u>Dying</u> Physically

Sin Compared to Leprosy

- It Is Deeper Than Skin
- It <u>Spreads</u>
- It Defiles and Isolates Us
- It Is Fit Only For the Fire
- ✓ He Was <u>Desperate</u>
- ✓ He Drew Near
 - He Came to Jesus With Confidence
 - He Came With Reverence
 - He Came With Humility
 - He Came With Faith

JESUS

- ✓ He Had <u>Compassion</u> on Them
- ✓ He Spoke to Them
- ✓ He <u>Touched</u> Him
- ✓ He Healed Them and It Was Immediate
- $\checkmark\,$ He Required Them to Follow the Law
- ✓ He Saved Them

THE 180° MOMENT

- ✓ He Was <u>Healed</u>
- ✓ He Was <u>Thankful</u>
- ✓ He Was <u>Saved</u>
- ✓ He Was a Witness

OUR 180° MOMENT

- Have you come to the place in your life where you have hit the end of the road, a dead end just like these lepers did? Are you desperate for Him today? If so, that is incredible. It is time to take the 180o turn today! Remember, it is as easy as ABC – Draw near to Jesus and He will draw near to you! Admit you are sinner, Believe that Jesus is God's Son who came to die for you, Confess Him as Savior and Lord, and Commit your life to Him! The Lord Jesus is ready to make you whole!
- 2. Perhaps you need God to heal you, maybe physically, mentally, emotionally, a scar in your past, a marriage, a relationship, or whatever your need, come to Jesus and ask believing He will do that very thing that is best for you and your circumstances! Maybe you feel distanced from Jesus but you don't have to! He is waiting to give you His touch in your life!
- 3. Let us be like Jesus to have compassion (not pity) and be willing to reach out and touch the untouchables in our lives, our community, our neighborhood, or wherever they may be in our lives. Name some untouchables in your world: How can you reach them and touch them in Jesus' name?
- 4. We need to be more like the man healed who went and told everyone what had happened to him. Jesus told him to be quiet, yet He was told us to tell the world and we are too quiet! May we not be quiet any longer and tell others about how Jesus has healed our lives and continues to do so today!

U-TURN: 180° THE TURNED AROUND LIFE DISEASE "The Untouchables" *Luke 5:12-14; 17:11-19* March 23, 2014 AM Service

This morning as we continue our journey through the book of Luke, We take a look at **Disease** and how Jesus dealt with it and what was called the Untouchables of the Day – we might look at liked we looked at HIV/AIDS Let's take a look at the story and we look at 2 different stories both dealing with lepers for they are very similar and illustrate our point.

Now, let us look at maybe his story between the lines, so if you will may you close your eyes for just a moment and hear the story of the leper of what he might have been thinking and feeling. Listen closely.

THE LEPER

- ✓ He was <u>devastated</u> Can you imagine? No we really can't!
- \checkmark He was despised He was a sinner and a Samaritan and a leper
- ✓ He was distanced isolated He was a complete outcast in everyway!
- ✓ He was <u>dead</u> spiritually and <u>dying</u> physically We talk about having a bad day this was a bad day of epic proportions Sin compared to leprosy
 - It is deeper than skin
 - It <u>spreads</u> to every part of our lives
 - It defiles and isolates us
 - It is fit only for the fire
- ✓ He was <u>desperate</u> willing to come to Jesus even though it was forbidden (Willing to call from a distance)

How desperate are we today for the Lord to do something in our lives? ✓ He drew near Approached Jesus - Look at how he did it.

- He came to Jesus with confidence believed, Lord you can heal me, I know it and I believe it.
- He came with reverence worship, devotion (recognized him as Master or Lord, a title of His deity, that He was the Christ.) Fell on his face, kneeled before Him

- He came with humility (if you are willing, please have pity on us, not we deserve, or you should, or you better, but only you can)
- He came with <u>faith</u> (both believed He would heal them, guy in 17 acted before was even healed.

The question is not will Jesus heal physically, but spiritually, emotionally, etc., The question is are we willing to ask. The leper knew that Jesus was able to heal him, the question in His mind (and in the mind of people today), will He really heal me? Does He even want to heal me? (I am not good enough, too many troubles, done too many wrong things, and so on) God is not willing that any sinner should perish, but that all would come to Him, and surrender their hearts and live to Him. Have you done that very thing today?

JESUS

- \checkmark He had <u>compassion</u> on him Do we or do we judge, exclude or ignore?
- \checkmark He spoke to them Like people, not like untouchables
- ✓ He touched him/them when he could have just spoken to him NO greater lover displayed than through His touch!
- ✓ He healed them and it was immediate it was their faith and it was instantaneous!
- ✓ He required them to follow the Law of the Day (Lev. 14 to present himself to the priest) Showed the priest and others that Jesus did it for them to obey the law and not break it. Key!
- ✓ He saved him, your faith has made you whole (We can make the external changes, and yet nothing change internally) 9 guys where healed and everything changed on the outside, yet only one found the ultimate healing, salvation in Jesus alone! Have you only been changed on the outside, you have just found religion like the Pharisees whom Jesus called whitewashed tombs, the outside looked great but the inside was still dead?

THE 180° MOMENT

- ✓ He was <u>healed</u>
- ✓ He was <u>thankful</u>
- ✓ He was <u>saved</u>

He was a witness Mark's account tells us that Jesus instructed the man not to reveal who had healed him, but the cleansed leper became an enthusiastic witness for the Lord. (Jesus commands us to tell everybody, and we keep quiet!) Because of this witness, great multitudes came to Jesus for help, and He graciously ministered to them. But Jesus was not impressed by these great crowds, for He knew that most of the people wanted only His healing power and not His salvation.

Our 180° Moment

- Have you come to the place in your life where you have hit the end of the road, a dead end just like these lepers did? Are you desperate for Him today? If so, that is incredible. It is time to take the 180° turn today! Remember, it is as easy as ABC – Draw near to Jesus and He will draw near to you! Admit you are a sinner, Believe that Jesus is God's Son, and Confess Him as Savior and Lord and Commit your life to Him! The Lord Jesus is ready to make you whole!
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