

TEN LEPERS – ONE THANKFUL

LUKE 17:11-19

Have you ever thought about how much you would have loved meeting Jesus when He was here on earth? Well, in Luke chapter 17 ten men met the Lord Jesus one day but they dare not get very close to Him. They had a dreadful disease called leprosy. They could not stay at home for their families could get the disease too. So they sat by the roadside and begged. Sometimes people gave them bread or a coin of money. No doubt the lepers had heard about the Lord Jesus and how He had made so many sick people well. Oh, how they wished he would make them well.

One day when they saw the Lord Jesus coming toward them they cried out "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." When the Lord Jesus saw them He said "Go and show yourselves to the priest." Now, in those days when a leper believed that he had been healed, he was supposed to go and show himself to the priest. The priest would decide if he were really healed. The 10 lepers believed the Lord Jesus and started out to obey Him.

You know, when we are sure the Lord Jesus wants us to do something, we should do it even though we don't understand how it is going to work out. That's called faith! Faith is just believing that God will do what He has promised.

As the lepers went on their way, a wonderful thing happened. The sores were all gone. The lepers were totally well. Jesus had healed them completely. Oh, how happy they were. Suddenly, one of the lepers who had been healed remembered that it was the Lord Jesus that had healed him. He went back to thank Jesus. He fell on his face at Jesus' feet thanking him. The Lord Jesus said to him "Were not all 10 cured? Where are the other 9? Did none of the other 9 return and give thanks to the glory of God?" Then the Lord Jesus said to the one thankful leper "Get up and go on your way. Your faith has made you well."

You know, we have Thanksgiving Day once a year. But God wants us to be thankful always. Every day should really be Thanksgiving Day for saved people who know Jesus Christ as their very own Saviour. It displeases the Lord when we complain and grumble and do not do our work with a happy and joyful heart. Did you know that the Bible tells us that a merry heart does good like medicine? That's in Proverbs chapter 27 verse 22.

We don't have leprosy, but each one of us has sin. Leprosy makes us think of sin because only God could cure leprosy and only the Lord Jesus can heal us from our sins. God's word tells us every one of us has sinned. That is in Romans chapter 3 verse 23. We cannot cure ourselves and neither can anyone else. Only the Lord Jesus can take away our sin.

Have you come to Jesus as a sinner who is sorry for your sin and believed on Him as your Saviour? If you have, He has forgiven you and made you clean. Then you have something very wonderful for which to thank the Lord. Thank Him today. Then take time to read today's story in your Bible in Luke chapter 17 verses 11 to 19.