

Message Notes

The Healings of Jesus

Gospel of Matthew, Part 35

Matthew 8:1-17

Message Outline

The Healings of Jesus

Gospel of Matthew, Part 35

Matthew 8:1-17 January 23, 2005

Why does Jesus heal?

Why are the healings of Jesus preserved for us in Scripture?

What are the healings of Jesus intended to teach us?

I. The healings of Jesus show WHO JESUS IS.

- A. The identity of Jesus.
- B. The authority of Jesus.
- C. The power of Jesus.
- D. The compassion of Jesus.

II. The healings of Jesus show WHY JESUS CAME.

- A. The INTENT of the Gospel.

*He Himself took our infirmities and carried away our diseases.
(Isaiah 53:4)*

- B. The EXTENT of the Gospel.
 - 1. The Paralytic: A Gospel for social outsiders.
 - 2. The Centurion: A Gospel for racial outsiders.
 - 3. Peter's Mom-in-law: A Gospel for gender outsiders.

III. The healings of Jesus show HOW TO COME TO JESUS.

- A. Come to Jesus with BOLD faith.
- B. Come to Jesus with HUMBLE faith.
- C. Come to Jesus with REVERENT faith.
- D. Come to Jesus with DESPERATE faith.

A Prayer of Faith, expressing the desire of a desperate heart. . . .
Lord Jesus, I come to you. I recognize that my sin has made me an outcast. Like the leper, I am unclean. Like the centurion, I am unworthy. But I also know that good news of your cross has made it possible for me to be forgiven and have a relationship with God through you. Thank you for living a perfect life that I should be living and dying the death that I deserve. Take me in. Heal my sin and brokenness. Change my life. I need you. I come humbly, yet boldly, receiving your grace and salvation. Amen.

Growth Group Understanding Questions

The Healings of Jesus

Gospel of Matthew, Part 35

Matthew 8:1-17

1. Read Matthew 7:28 - 8:17 together, dividing the passage among three people. What is the connection between 7:29 and what Matthew shows us next in these three healings?
2. "When the King comes, the Kingdom breaks in." Discuss this phrase in light of this passage. How is the kingdom breaking in here? How do Jesus' healings show us who he is? His identity, His authority, His power, His compassion? (Get specific and reference particular verses to support your case.)
3. How do the healings of Jesus foreshadow the climactic work of Jesus on the cross (the INTENT of the Gospel)? Where is the quote from at the end of 8:17? Go back and read this larger passage. What is our real disease and sickness? How does Jesus bear it?
4. How do the healings of Jesus here demonstrate the EXTENT of the Gospel? In what ways are each of these three outcasts? What are we learning about the Gospel?
5. Look closer at the healing of the leper. How is his faith bold? Humble? Reverent? Desperate? What does he show us about ourselves and how we keep coming to Jesus?
6. Look closer at the healing of the Centurion's servant. How is his faith bold? Humble? Reverent? Desperate? What does he show us about ourselves and how we keep coming to Jesus?

Growth Group Application Questions

The Healings of Jesus

Gospel of Matthew, Part 35

Matthew 8:1-17

1. Personally, what grabbed you in this passage? What spoke to your heart or challenged your faith?
2. For some of us and others, why is it so hard to initially recognize and continually remember that apart from Jesus we are unclean like the leper and unworthy like the centurion? We can't or won't acknowledge our wickedness? Do you fall into this category?
3. For others of us, why is it so hard for us to remember that by Jesus we can be made clean and worthy in Him? We can't imagine or hold onto God's forgiveness and acceptance? Do you fall into this category?
4. The healings of Jesus remind us that the world and we ourselves are broken. Where do you see that brokenness in the world today? Where do you see that brokenness in your self today?
5. Jesus shows us a preview of heaven when there will be no disease and no more pain and the universe will be healed and remade. What do you long for in heaven?
6. Discuss your faith in light of the four qualities of faith we see in the leper and centurion. Which of the four qualities is strongest in your faith? Which of the four is weakest in your faith? How can you develop the weak qualities?
7. What is a circumstance in your life today, where you need to come to Christ by bold, humble, reverent, desperate faith? Share with your group and let them pray with you and come by faith with you now.