

Mt.8.1-15 “Flourishing Like Grain”
Matthew Series: ‘THE KING IS COMING’ #108
December 27, 2020

I. THE REJECTED MAN: A LEPER

The multitudes were uncommitted **observers**, who were not **convicted** of Him as Lord & Savior.

The severe form of leprosy was the most **feared** disease of the ancient world.

Leprosy is a graphic illustration of **sin**. Like leprosy, sin infects the **whole** person.

1.) The leper came to Jesus with **confidence**.

Jesus was neither **afraid** nor **ashamed** to associate with him.

He approached Him **directly** & without hesitation.

2.) The leper came to Jesus with **reverence**.

His boldness did not come from **presumption** but from humble **adoration**.

The **leper**, by contrast appeared

- ❖ loathsome & repulsive on the outside, but
- ❖ **inwardly** he was reverent & believing.

3.) The leper came to Jesus with **humility**.

He came **expectantly** but not **demandingly**.

4.) The leper came with **faith**.

The leper came

- ❖ with confidence because he believed Jesus was **compassionate**,
- ❖ with reverence because he believed Jesus was **God**,
- ❖ with humility because he believed Jesus was **sovereign**, &
- ❖ with faith because he believed Jesus had the **power** to heal him.

The healing was **instantaneous**

The **first requirement** of faith is **obedience**,

Jesus’ miracle would be **officially confirmed** by the Jewish establishment.

The Lord’s greatest purpose was to **cleanse** sin, not sickness.

Sin destroys **spiritual** health & makes a person an **outcast** with God.

Much modern evangelism & personal witness is **weakened** by failure to confront men with their sin.

CONCLUSION:

After a person is saved from sin, Jesus’ first requirement is that he henceforth obey the **Word** of God.

✚ **Only a life-style of holy living** can give proper testimony to what Jesus Christ has done in saving us.

✚ It is best to say nothing of our relationship to Jesus Christ unless our living **reflects** something of His holiness & will.