

The Healing and Restoration of the Leper
Matthew 8:1-4



#### Matthew 8:1-4

1 When Jesus came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. 2 A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

3 Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. 4 Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."



#### Verse 1

Jesus came down out of the hills, where the Sermon on the Mount had been delivered; the great crowds still followed Him.

Some would have wanted to know more, some just curious, some may have thought He was the Messiah, some wanted to see more miracles.



#### Verse 2

The Bible uses the term Leper to describe a number of skin diseases that were contagious. In Biblical times if people had leprosy they were declared unclean by the Priests.

Leviticus 13:46 says that "As long as the serious disease lasts, they will be ceremonially unclean. They must live in isolation in their place outside the camp".



#### Verse 2

The text used the word "knelt" before.

Greek word (pros-koo-neh-o) for knelt can also mean "worshiped."

He also used the title "Lord".

Greek word (koo'-ree-os) means Lord, Master, Ruler or one supreme in authority.



Verse 3

In verse 3 we read "If you are willing".

The leper had no question about Jesus' healing powers. Jesus only needed to decide and act.



#### Verse 3

Jesus touched the Leper which would make Him ceremonially unclean. But when Jesus' touches something, it cannot remain defiled or unclean.

Both Jesus' words – I am willing - and Jesus' touch are effective in showing the power and authority and healing of God.



#### Verse 4

Jesus' command for the leper to keep quite and go show himself to the Priests was about allowing the man to be acceptable to the community as a whole again.

Only a Priest could declare them clean and restore them to community life (Lev 14:1-4)



#### Summary

So we see this miracle healing was done by Jesus out of compassion for the Leper, but it also had greater implications for him as a person. He was restored in body, he was restored to family and community life, and he was restored spiritually as he could attend the Temple once more.



# **Application Points**

1. We need to bring our problems to Jesus



#### **Application Points**

2. We see just how important restoring people to a community is to Jesus.



### **Application Points**

3. We see that Jesus is a Saviour for all people and didn't treat people like outcastes.

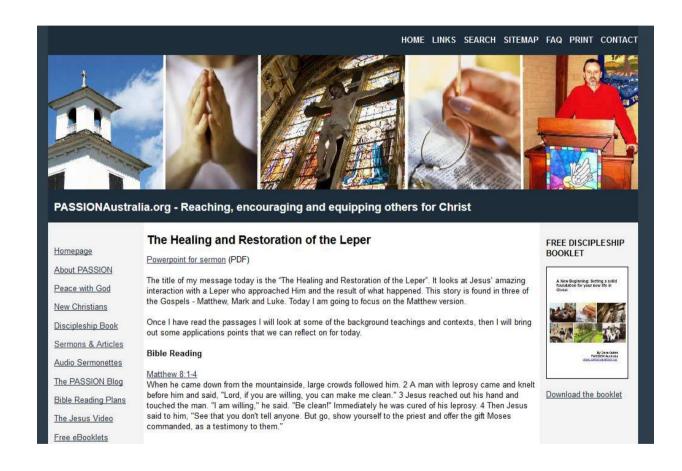


## **Closing Summary**

- That we can bring all our problems to Jesus and He can help us.
- That restoring people community is important to Jesus
- That Jesus is a Saviour for all people and didn't treat people like outcastes



#### Copy of message text and PowerPoint



www.passionaustralia.org