

POWER HOUR

1/19/2025

Lesson Text:
Luke 17:11-19

Background Scripture:
Luke 5:12-15

Devotional Reading:
Leviticus 13:38-46; 14:1-32

“HEALING TEN LEPERS”

NLT TRANSLATION

Golden Text: *“And Jesus said to the man, “Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you.” Luke 17:19 NLT*

Time: A.D. 30

Place: on the way to Jerusalem

Luke 17:11-19 NLT

11 As Jesus continued on toward Jerusalem, he reached the border between Galilee and Samaria. **12** As he entered a village there, ten men with leprosy stood at a distance, **13** crying out, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” **14** He looked at them and said, “Go show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed of their leprosy. **15** One of them, when he saw that he was healed, came back to Jesus, shouting, “Praise God!” **16** He fell to the ground at Jesus’ feet, thanking him for what he had done. This man was a Samaritan. **17** Jesus asked, “Didn’t I heal ten men? Where are the other nine? **18** Has no one returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?” **19** And Jesus said to the man, “Stand up and go. Your faith has healed you.”

INTRODUCTION

The Lord pours out His blessings on us daily, but we all have received His special blessings from time to time. What should these special blessings cause us to do? They should cause us to thank God for what He has done. We sometimes think of giving thanks only during the Thanksgiving holiday or other special occasions, but we learn today from Luke 17 that people of faith should give thanks to God no matter the time of the year it is.

1. Ten Lepers (Luke 17:11-14).

As Jesus made His way to Jerusalem, He passed through Samaria and Galilee. He

came into a certain village and encountered ten lepers.

The lepers “lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us” (vs. 13). The lepers were familiar with the Lord's compassion and power and may have even heard of a previous time when He had healed a leper (Luke 5:12-16).

When Jesus saw the lepers, He had compassion on them. He told them to “go shew yourselves unto the priests” (17:14. Jesus gave this instruction because the Old Testament gave priests the responsibility of examining lepers to determine whether they could return to society (Leviticus 13:47-59)

The Lord did not heal the men at that moment. Rather, “as they went they were cleansed” of their leprosy (Luke 17:14).

2 One thankful Samaritan (Luke 17:15-19).

All ten were healed of their leprosy, but only “one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God (vs. 15). The other nine may have been thankful, but they made no effort to show it. The one who returned to Jesus “fell on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks.

The end of verse 16 adds another statement about the man who returned: “and he was a Samaritan.” Presumably, the other nine men were Jews. We would have expected Israelites, those of God's chosen nation to be thankful for their Messiah; but they were not. This incident was a good example of John 1:11-12. Jesus' own people did not receive Him, but those outside the nation embraced Him.

Jesus' concluding comments showed that this man responded the way he did because of his faith in Jesus. “He said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole” (Luke 17:19).

POINTS TO PONDER

1. The Lord can help anyone, even those who have no other hope (Luke 17:11-12).
2. We all need to cry out for the Lord's mercy (vs. 13).
3. It is as we obey the Lord's Word that He does His work in our lives (vs. 14)
4. Thankfulness for what God has done for us should be fervent and public (vss. 15-16).
5. Showing gratitude is often the last thing on our minds when we experience God's goodness to us (vss. 17-18).

6. Jesus gives assurance to all who turn to Him (vs.19)

CONCLUSION

Palm Plants purchased from a greenhouse initially have little tolerance for light. Experts advise owners to slowly acclimate their plants to the sun.

Although this method may be good for palm trees, spiritual acclimatizing can have a deadening effect on human souls. We are meant to respond strongly to the light of Jesus. The resistant Jews of Jesus' day experienced repeated yet non-transformative exposure to truth.

The Samaritan (a stranger to Judaism) could not merely proceed to the next religious ritual (vs. 14) without first strongly reacting to his encounter with so bright a light.

QUESTION(S)

What significance might there be that Jesus passed between Samaria and Galilee on His way to Jerusalem (Luke 17:11)?

What does the wording of the plea by the ten lepers tell us about their understanding of who Jesus was (vs. 13)? Why did they cry out for mercy?

Why did Jesus tell the lepers to show themselves to the priests before they were healed (vs. 14)? What does the lepers' obedience tell us?

Why does the text take pains to identify the thankful leper as a Samaritan (vs. 16)

Was he better than the others because of this? Why or why not?

ANTICIPATING THE NEXT LESSON

Next week's lesson is *"Jesus Restores Peter to Service"*

Lesson Text: *John 21:15-25*

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