

Luke's Gospel: Son of Man, Seeker of Men

Part 10: Transformed from Impure to Pure

Big Question: How can Jesus make me truly pure inside?

Scripture Background: This miracle is found in all 3 of the synoptic Gospels: Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-16.

“Jesus encountered a man ... covered with leprosy (lit., “full of leprosy”). Perhaps he was in the final stages of leprosy—a fact which would have been easily discernible in the man’s home community. The Law (Lev. 13) commanded strict segregation of a person who had leprosy, for it was a graphic picture of uncleanness. A leprosy person could not worship at the central sanctuary; he was ceremonially unclean and therefore cut off completely from the community.”¹

Luke 5:12-16 (NKJV): *Jesus Cleanses a Leper*

¹² And it happened when He was in a certain city, that behold, a man who was full of leprosy saw Jesus; and he fell on his face and implored Him, saying, “Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean.”

¹³ Then He put out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing; be cleansed.” Immediately the leprosy left him. ¹⁴ And He charged him to tell no one, “But go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as a testimony to them, just as Moses commanded.”

¹⁵ However, the report went around concerning Him all the more; and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities. ¹⁶ So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.

Transformed from IMPURE to Pure. Truths that can transform your life today:

1. **Jesus is willing to make you _____** (v. 12).
 - Notice the man's condition: He had leprosy.
 - Notice the man's response to Jesus:
 - The man's response is a beautiful picture of responding to the Gospel:
2. **Jesus responds with love to the _____** (v. 13).
 - I love Jesus' response:
 - i. He touched the untouchable.
 - ii. He assured the man's faith—I am willing.
 - iii. He answered the man's prayer—Be cleansed.
 - iv. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus was moved with compassion (Mark 1:41).
 - Then something miraculous happened: The unclean leper became clean again!

¹ Martin, J. A. (1985). Luke. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 216). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

Scripture Insight: Healing from leprosy was rare. The Scriptures record only Miriam (Num. 12) and Naaman (2 Kings 5) as having been healed of leprosy (cf. Moses; Ex. 4:6–7). Thus it would have been extremely unusual for a person to present himself before **the priest and offer the sacrifices ... for ... cleansing.**²

What happens the *MOMENT* a person accepts Christ as Lord and Savior? *By Dr. Bob Ream*

In Relation to God the Father:

1. **We have access to God's grace.** (Ephesians 2:8; Ephesians 2:18)
2. **We are adopted into the family of God as God's sons.** (Galatians 4:5; Ephesians 1:5)
3. **We have an inheritance.** (1 Peter 1:3-4; Colossians 3:24)
4. **We are chosen.** (Ephesians 1:4; 1 Peter 1:2)
5. **We become a child of God.** (John 1:12)
6. **We get Heavenly citizenship.** (Ephesians 2:19)
7. **We become an heir of God.** (Galatians 3:29; Romans 8:17)
8. **We become a new creature.** (2 Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15)
9. **We become a servant of God.** (Romans 6:22)
10. **We become a priest of God.** (1 Peter 2:9)
11. **We are reconciled to God.** (Romans 5:10; Ephesians 2:13)
12. **We are Sanctified.** (1 Corinthians 6:11; Acts 26:18)

In Relation to God the Son:

13. **We are accepted in the beloved.** (Ephesians 1:6)
14. **We are baptized into Christ's body.** (1 Corinthians 12:13; Romans 6:4; Galatians 3:27)
15. **We are a gift to the Son.** (John 17:9)
16. **We are buried with Christ.** (Colossians 2:10-12; Romans 6:4)
17. **We are indwelt by Christ.** (John 14:23)
18. **We presently possess eternal life.** (John 10:28)
19. **We are saved by Christ.** (Acts 16:31; Acts 4:12)
20. **We have peace with God.** (Philippians 4:7)
21. **We become a friend of God.** (John 15:15)
22. **We have our name recorded in the book of life in heaven.** (Luke 10:20; Philippians 4:3)
23. **We are seated with Christ in heavenly places.** (Ephesians 2:6)
24. **We receive a blessed hope.** (Titus 2:13)

² Martin, J. A. (1985). Luke. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 217). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

25. We have fellowship with the Trinity. (1 John 1:3)

26. We have a mansion prepared in glory. (John 14:2)

In Relation to God the Holy Spirit:

27. We are born again. (John 3:3-7)

28. We are anointed by the Holy Spirit. (1 John 2:27; John 14:26; John 16:13)

29. We are sealed by the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:13; Ephesians 4:30)

30. Our body becomes the temple of the Holy Ghost. (1 Corinthians 6:19)

31. We are given spiritual gift(s) by the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12)

32. We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:11; 2 Timothy 1:14; 1 Corinthians 3:16)

In Relation to the Recipient.

33. We are forgiven. (Luke 7:48)

34. We are justified. (Romans 5:1)

35. We are redeemed. (Revelation 5:9; 1 Peter 1:18-19)

36. We have an advocate (attorney for defense). (1 John 2:1)

37. We have the power of getting victory over sin. (Romans 6:1-2; Romans 6:11; Romans 6:14)

38. We become an ambassador for Christ. (2 Corinthians 5:20)³

- Jesus told the man to *GO* and *SHOW* the priest what happened to him as a testimony. He then told him not to tell no one (yet) what had happened. Why did Jesus say this?

Scripture Insight: Why did Jesus command him not to tell anyone? Perhaps for two reasons: (a) The man was to go immediately to the priest to be a testimony. (b) When the news of Jesus' healing power spread, He was constantly besieged by people, which caused Him to have to withdraw (vv. 15–16).⁴

Scripture Insight: 5:14. According to [Leviticus 14](#), the priests had to verify a leper's healing. In light of [Mark 1:44](#), Jesus' instruction was meant to be a testimony to the verifying priests, causing them to recognize that the Messiah was among Israel.⁵

3. People are hungry for _____ and _____ (v. 15).

- Jesus had asked the man to keep quiet, but the news about what Jesus got out to the multitudes.

Scripture Insight: 5:14 show yourself to the priest: Jesus commanded that the regulation of [Lev. 14](#) be followed. In silencing the healed leper, Jesus sought to avoid drawing excessive attention to His healing ministry.

³ 38 Things that Happen when We get Saved by Dr. Bob Ream, 1994. Dr. Bob Ream is Pastor of Hillview Baptist Church

⁴ Martin, J. A. (1985). Luke. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 2, p. 217). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

⁵ Quote from King James Study Bible Notes.

He wanted people to seek Him for spiritual healing, not merely physical healing. The leper's **testimony** was to God's faithfulness and His exercise of power through Jesus (7:22).⁶

4. **People will try to drain the life out of you, so don't forget to**

_____ and _____ (v. 16).

- Jesus prayed—
 - i. **C**_____—He prayed often
 - ii. **With d**_____—He withdrew from the crowds
 - iii. **In s**_____—in the wilderness

Scripture Insight: 5:16 The Greek verb tense indicates that Jesus **habitually** withdrew for prayer.⁷

- 7 days without prayer makes one weak!

5 Reasons Why You Desperately Need Prayer Everyday:

- 1) Prayer keeps you connected with God.
- 2) Prayer keeps you empowered for God's call on your life.
- 3) Prayer helps you to unleash God's blessing on the lives of others.
- 4) Prayer helps you to daily walk in the Holy Spirit.
- 5) Prayer gives you daily guidance and a divine perspective to help you stay victorious in your Christian walk.

Psalm 5:3 (NLT); Listen to my voice in the morning, Lord.

Each morning I bring my requests to you and wait expectantly.

Psalm 34:15- The eyes of the Lord *are* on the righteous, And His ears *are open* to their cry.

I John 5:14-15: ¹⁴ Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

Take Home Truth: Only Jesus can transform the impure into pure through the power of His touch!

Action Step: Invite 5 friends/family to our Easter services next week:

Good Friday—Service is from 6-7 PM. Easter—Bible Studies @ 9:45; Service @ 11.

Go Deeper this week:

- **Watch**—Check out RightNowMedia--
 - The Grave Robber by Mark Batterson.
 - Got kids/grandkids? Check out Easter Week - Jelly Telly Devotional

Preview for next Sunday: "Raising the Roof!" from Luke 5:17-26.

⁶ Quote from Thomas Nelson NKJV Study Bible.

⁷ Quote from New Spirit-Filled Life Bible.