



## Healing of the Lame Man: What Jesus Does

Jn. 5:1-16

- 1. What we have established as we enter Jn. 5-11:
  - a. The main purpose for Christ coming AT THAT TIME in His earthly ministry was because it was now time for God to fulfill all His promises to Israel, especially the first one He gave Abraham—I will make of you a great Nation—and provide Israel with her NATIONAL salvation and NATIONAL forgiveness of sins.
  - b. Of course, individuals heard and believed Jesus and were individually saved and receive personal forgiveness of sins, but God had been providing that throughout all since the fall of Adam.

- c. NOW was the time to provide for Israel's NATIONAL salvation—reclaim, restore, reunite the Nation of Israel and make her into His own great and holy Nation, the greatest Nation on the earth and through her His blessings and salvation would go out to the whole world—this is how God's Prophetic Program with Israel works.
- d. This also means that the signs were not primarily for unbelievers in God to get them to be believers in God, but for those who already believed in God (the Believing Remnant of Israel) to believe in Jesus Christ, seeing the Father working in the Son, recognizing Him as the Father's Sent One who should be followed for safekeeping and entrance into Israel's Kingdom.

- 2. We go from the healing of the official's on-the-brink-of-death-son (4:46–54), which emphasized FAITH, to the partially lifeless lame man at the pool of Bethesda (5:1–9), which now emphasizes GRACE.
  - --Each sign points to the truth that with Jesus's arrival, "The hour is coming, AND NOW IS, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live" (5:25).
  - --This giving of life to the Nation of Israel will reach its fullness at Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming with the resurrection of many from the dead (**the hour is coming**) in accord with Daniel's Time Schedule (Dan. 12:1-3) but it begins now (**and now is**) at Christ's 1<sup>st</sup> Coming with His healings that culminate in the resuscitation of Lazarus after 4 days in the grave (Jn. 11).

- 3. Signs do not merely symbolize the availability of eternal life through Jesus; they themselves offer life in all its variety of forms in the present. Life to Nathaniel, water (inorganic—unliving) to wine (organic—living water)—life to VRS—life to Jerusalem and Nico—life to the Sam. W.—life to the Nobleman's son—life to the healed lame man.
  - --Like Moses, Jesus doesn't just offer the promise of deliverance but the signs themselves begin the deliverance.

- 4. Jn. 5 Outline:
  - a. Jn. 5:1-16—What Jesus Did—the One who can provide Israel with her national healing graciously.
  - b. Jn. 5:17-32—Who Jesus Is—the Dispenser of God's Life and Judgment.
  - c. Jn. 5:33-47—Why They Don't Believe—Jesus exposes their lie.

- 5. As we go from Jn. 1-4 to Jn. 5-11, we go from the Cana Cycle to the Festival cycle, but they are tied together with the 2 signs of the healing of the Nobleman's son (FAITH) and healing of the lame man (GRACE).
  - a. In Jn. 1-4, Jesus displayed how the national salvation of Israel would work, beginning in Jerusalem and ending with the re-unification of the nation that includes Samaria ...
  - b. Now in Jn. 5-11 Jesus asks: Does the Nation of Israel want it? Does Israel want to be made whole (Jn. 5:6; cp. Is. 1:3)
  - c. And the key to everything is the same key back in the Exodus account of Israel's ancient history—the only solution is to hold up the rod of God of faith, believing in God and His Sent One, the Lord Jesus Christ, falling on the grace resident in His I AM Jehovah Name so that God can do everything for them thereby SAVING the NATION OF ISRAEL.

- 6. As the previous signs brought about kingdom blessings, so too in the healing of the lame man, Jesus gives a brings in the life of Kingdom blessings (Is. 35:5-6).
  - --Through this sign, Jesus manifests to the nation of Israel, especially believing Israel, that He is God's sent one who will establish their long-prophesied earthly Kingdom and provide final Sabbath rest for the redeemed, holy, great Nation of Israel in Life and Righteousness.

- 7. In Jesus's 2<sup>nd</sup> journey from Galilee to Jerusalem during an unidentified Jewish feast, He heals a man lame for 38 years.
  - a. It is at a pool that provides supernatural healing to those who get into at the right time.
  - b. Being impotent, the man had no friends to put him into the pool at the right time.
  - c. When he is at his most hopeless, Jesus arrives, finds him and heals him directly, bypassing the angel and the pool altogether.
    - -- Do you want to be healed is reminiscent of Jn. 1:38 and 4:10.

- 8. The man was waiting for God and the angels to do something, but he had no power to enter it himself.
  - a. Just like Nico (religious leaders) and Sam. Woman (Samaria), he represents a group—the impotent and lifeless Nation of Israel (Is. 1:1-15). When they went into captivity, they died as a nation (Ezek. 33:21
  - b. Israel was suffering under the VRS that brought the nation into the curses of the Law under the wrath of God, resulting in its current ruined and death-filled state that only God can heal and restore to life.
    - --ie., THE NATION NEEDS TO BE BORN AGAIN (Jn. 3:3-7)!

- c. The Believing Remnant was waiting and watching for God to send Someone who could save the Nation and bring in Israel's NATIONAL Consolation and Redemption (Lk. 2:25, 38). Israel fell under the Curses of the Law in the Courses of Punishment, bringing the nation into its current death-filled predicament.
- b. This time, God didn't send an angel to minister to Israel (Heb. 1:14) by moving the waters.
  - --He sent His Son the source and dispenser of life.

- 9. Just as Israel spent 38 years wandering in the wilderness (Deut. 2:14), and then it was time to enter the Promised Land, so too now in Jesus's day for Israel it was time to enter the Land via the Kingdom.
  - --But like Israel of old, the nation was once again refusing to enter the Kingdom by rejecting God and His way into it—His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ (Jn. 1:11).
  - --Jesus is the one who could lead them into the rest, their Sabbath Rest and Redemption (Heb. 3:7-4:13).
  - --They were characterized by hardheartedness—all this sickness and death they didn't help any of them and didn't care if they were healed.