

Expositional Preaching from the Authorized Version of the Holy Bible
 Current Book: The Gospel According to Mark – Message 11

2015 VISION: Redeem the Time!

Scriptures for Today: Mark 1:40-45

Title of Today's Message: The man on fire for God – *from leper to preacher!*

INTRODUCTION

Last week, we saw **how Jesus prioritized His life and His public ministry – PEOPLE, PRAYER, and PREACHING.** We were challenged to **keep those priorities** in focus each day as we seek to do the work of the Lord for God's glory. Today, we will see our Lord's **compassion** for even the **vilest** of people on the planet. Jesus will heal a leper who comes to him. Pay attention to the way the leper comes to Jesus. It was the Lord's will for this man to be cleansed of **a disease that had no CURE!** He was **hopeless**, and then he found Jesus. He was an **outcast**, and then he found Jesus. He was on **a crash course for death**, and then he found Jesus! The Bible says that we have much in common with the leprous man. Like leprosy in its deadly phase, there is no cure for sin outside of the Lord Jesus Christ. Unless you are cleansed from your sin and guilt of breaking God's law, the Bible says you will spend eternity in a literal place called hell. **It is not the Lord's will that you should perish.**

PREACHING NOTES

1. And there came a **LEPER** to him...

- ✓ The deadly plague of leprosy left you in most cases with no cure and ultimately death...
2 Kings 7:3; 15:5

2 Kings 7:3 – *And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die?*

Leviticus 13:45-46 – *And the leper in whom the plague is, his clothes shall be rent, and his head bare, and he shall put a covering upon his upper lip, and shall cry, Unclean, unclean. All the days wherein the plague shall be in him he shall be defiled; he is unclean: he shall dwell alone; without the camp shall his habitation be.*

- ✓ According to the Bible, our sin is like the deadly plague of leprosy...
Ephesians 2:11-13; Romans 1-3

Ephesians 2:11-12 – *Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:*

- ✓ The leper came to Jesus in humility and brokenness...
Matthew 8:2; Luke 5:12; Psalm 51

Luke 5:12 – *And it came to pass, when he was in a certain city, behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on his face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.*

- NOTE** The leper came to Jesus knowing that He had the power to heal him of his deadly disease. He did not care about what others thought. He fell on his face before the blessed Saviour.

2. And Jesus, moved with **COMPASSION**...

- ✓ When Jesus saw the leper, He was moved with compassion...
Mark 6:34; Matthew 9:36; Luke 7:12, 13; Hebrews 2:17; 4:15

***Mark 6:34** – And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.*

- ✓ He touched the leper and said, “I will; be thou clean”...
Matthew 11:5; 2 Peter 3:9

***2 Peter 3:9** – The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

- ✓ And as soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him...
Mark 1:31; 5:29; Matthew 15:28; John 4:50-53; 15:3; Genesis 1:3; Psalm 33:9

***Psalm 33:9** – For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.*

NOTE If you are a “little Christ,” you will follow Jesus. First, He had compassion toward people. Second, He was willing to touch them. Third, He was willing to save them. How about you?

3. The leper went out, and began to publish it much, and to **BLAZE** abroad the matter...

- ✓ Jesus told him to shew himself to the priest for a testimony unto them...
Leviticus 14:1-32; Matthew 23:2, 3; Luke 5:14; 17:14; Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:11

***Leviticus 14:11** – And the priest that maketh him clean shall present the man that is to be made clean, and those things, before the LORD, at the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:*

- ✓ The leper became a man on fire for the Lord Jesus Christ...
Deuteronomy 32:3; Psalm 26:7; Mark 5:20; Acts 8:1, 4; Romans 5:5; 16:19; 1 Thessalonians 1:8

***Acts 8:4** – Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.*

NOTE There is no mistaking a man, woman, boy or girl who has been rescued from a perilous hell by the loving Saviour. They are the ones on fire for God. O Lord, light our candle for Christ!
Psalm 18:28 – For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness.

❖ **Personal Application**

- What did God say to you through His Word today? Obey Him. Give Him more glory this week.

A TIME OF DECISION

There are no coincidences with God. You were here today to hear a message *from God*...

- ❖ **Unbeliever**, listen to the voice of your conscience *right now*.

* The Bible says you must *confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus* and *believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead*. You must turn to God and trust Christ alone to save you from God’s wrath to come.