

ALONE and EMPTY

First Baptist Church and The Lakefront Church - Venice, Florida
One Church - Two Locations
March 23, 2025

Mark 1:39-42 (CSB) *He went into all of Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons. ⁴⁰Then a man with leprosy came to Him and, on his knees, begged Him, "If you are willing, you can make me clean."*

⁴¹Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched him. "I am willing," He told him. "Be made clean."²Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean.

Leviticus 13:45-46 (CEV) *If you ever have leprosy, you must tear your clothes, leave your hair uncombed, cover the lower part of your face, and go around shouting, "unclean! unclean!"⁴⁶As long as you have the disease, you are unclean [defiled] and must live alone outside the camp.*

'unclean' = טמא (taw-may')

ט tet - snake, surround

מ mem - water, chaos

א aleph - bull, strong

Genesis 2:7 (CSB) *Then the Lord God formed the man out of the dust from the ground and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, and the man became a living being.*

Genesis 3:8-9 (CSB) *Then the man and his wife heard the sound [voice (383x), noise (49x), sound (39x)] of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. ⁹So the Lord God called out to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"*

Philippians 2:5-8 *Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, ⁶who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be held onto. ⁷Instead He emptied himself by assuming the humble position of a servant and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form ⁸He humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.*

From the Gospels: *Pilate had Jesus flogged with a lead-tipped whip. Then they blindfolded Him and began to spit in Jesus' face and beat Him with their fists. And some slapped Him... They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. They wove thorn branches into a crown and put it on His head, and they placed a reed stick in His right hand as a scepter. Then they knelt before Him in mockery and taunted, "Hail! King of the Jews!"... they spit on Him and grabbed the stick and struck Him on the head with it. When they were finally tired of mocking Him, they took off the robe... The people passing by shouted abuse, shaking their heads in mockery. "Ha! Look at you now!" they yelled at Him.*

Mark 15:34 (NLT) *Then at three o'clock Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"*

1 Peter 1:18-19 (CSB) *For you know that you were redeemed from your empty way of life inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of an unblemished and spotless lamb.*