

From The Crowd

Many examples in Scripture from the unknown

Syrophoenician Woman **Mark 7**

Samaritan woman at the well **John 4**

The demoniacs of the Gadarenes **Matthew 8**

Woman with issue of blood **Luke 8**

Widow with two mites **Mark 12**

The Sick Lady

Luke 13:10-13 *And He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who for eighteen years had had a sickness caused by a spirit; and she was bent double, and could not straighten up at all. When Jesus saw her, He called her over and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your sickness." And He laid His hands on her; and immediately she was made erect again and began glorifying God.*

This woman is nameless to you and me, but one that I think we can learn some valuable lessons from. Whatever her infirmity was, it had caused her to be unable to straighten up and had afflicted her for eighteen years. Notice with me at least three things we can learn from the life of this sick woman.

Her Illness Did Not Stop Her From Serving God.

Jesus was teaching in a synagogue on the Sabbath. Here He met her.

Though she couldn't straighten up, she was there.

She did not excuse herself from service. "I'm just not able to get around very good, my back is hurting and so I think I'll stay home today"?

Do we sometimes let things keep us from serving?

Would that same sickness keep us from work?

Hebrews 10:23-25 *Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.*

How devoted are we to serve our Lord?

This woman did not let this illness stop her from serving the One whom she loved.

Her Example Of Faith Led To Her Healing.

Unlike many examples we have studied she did not seek out or ask for healing, she was just dealing as best she could, but the Lord looked and spoke to her, saying "you are freed from your sickness."

If we will put the Lord first, He will supply our needs in this life

Matthew 6:33 *But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Not only will our needs be supplied, but often great blessings, above and beyond our necessities, flow from His bountiful hands.

Salvation and eternity do not require some great action. They are not just given to us. God will save and bless those who willingly submit and humbly obey

If you have the kind of faith this woman had, you will obedient to your Creator, and He will heal you as well.

Once healed, she glorified God.

The word glorified is defined as, “to praise, extol, magnify, celebrate” (Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament, p. 157).

Here was a lady who was extremely thankful to her Lord for what He had done for her.

When Jesus healed the ten lepers, only one returned to glorify God **Luke 17:11-19**

Luke 17:15-16 Now one of them, when he saw that he had been healed, turned back, glorifying God with a loud voice, and he fell on his face at His feet, giving thanks to Him. And he was a Samaritan.

Only the one lowly Samaritan returned to bow and give thanks to the One that made him whole.

How many times have you and I been healed?

Are we truly thankful to the Lord for all His blessings?

Do we show it by our actions?

May we never be guilty of ingratitude!

Contrast This Sick Lady With Synagogue Official

Luke 13:14-17 But the synagogue official, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, began saying to the crowd in response, “There are six days in which work should be done; so come during them and get healed, and not on the Sabbath day.” But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites, does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the stall and lead him away to water him? And this woman, a daughter of Abraham as she is, whom Satan has bound for eighteen long years, should she not have been released from this bond on the Sabbath day?” As He said this, all His opponents were being humiliated; and the entire crowd was rejoicing over all the glorious things being done by Him.

Rather than glorifying God he rebukes the crowd

Make certain we are not focused on form instead of God

Jesus calls him out for his hypocrisy

Crowd rejoices in the works of Jesus.

A Lesson For All Of Us

Let each of us follow the example of this sick lady.

There are only 4 verses in the entire Bible that mention this nameless sick woman, but what a powerful example she is to all who will read this account.

May we live our lives in such a way, even if others do not know our names, in crossing their paths, we can be such an example to them.

You never know who is watching.

Jimmy Mickells