

Reversing the Curse 2019-03-17

John 4:49-53

The official said to him, "Sir, come down before my child dies." 50 Jesus said to him, "Go; your son will live." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. 52 So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, "Your son will live." And he himself believed, and all his household.

Last week: beginning of Jesus' calling/claiming nations to Himself.

- Healings of official's son and invalid is the first signs of Jesus reversing results of curse.
 - Evidence Jesus Christ is the Messiah with authority over sickness/death.
John 4:46-48, John 5:2-7

Both tried find solution to predicaments in self/world w/o success.

- Secular official probably had wealth, authority but can't help dying son.
- Man invalid for 38 yrs. Can't get self in water...How pool worked is not essential.

Two unbelievers powerless, hopeless, desperate sovereignly encounter Jesus.

- only interested in Jesus as means of healing.....lover of Jesus' power, not Jesus.
 - Tend to turn to God only in weakness, need, despair.
- In compassion/love Jesus did not reject because of selfish/wrong motives.

Here manifests His power over sickness/death by healing. John 4:49-51, John 5:8-9

- Both had "limited" self-centered faith: official sought Jesus but both believed what Jesus said & obeyed Him without question.
 - They discovered that distance (20 miles), time (38 years) not hindrance/barrier to Jesus' power/authority to reverse results of curse.
 - Do you really believe that NOTHING can hinder God?

Jesus knew primary problem not sickness but sin and that's why He came to bring about a much deeper/permanent healing from our sins. Psalm 32:3-5, Proverbs 14:30, John 5:13-15

- Jesus makes connection between sin and sickness.
 - Not all sickness direct result of sin like invalid but all sickness/death result of Adam's fall into sin.....not in new heaven/earth (Revelation 21:4).

Jesus already healed invalid physically but real issue his holiness, not his health.

- Jesus seeks him and warns if continue embracing sin as his way of life, will perish.
 - Earth only hell we shall ever suffer is misunderstanding Bible.
- No indication/evidence invalid ever repented.
 - Signs and wonders not necessarily produce saving faith.
- Jesus' aim in healing body is healing soul...healed son physically and whole household healed spiritually. John 4:52-53, John 20:31,

Miraculous picture of what Jesus Christ can do for you spiritually.....show grace, power, mercy of Jesus to reverse curse & heal broken bodies/souls.

- Jesus Christ's life, death & resurrection paid the penalty brought by curse. Galatians 3:13 Gospel
- Jesus' death & resurrection broke power of the curse over every Christian.
 - Indwelling Holy Spirit enables us to overcome sin and temptation and live holy.
- Jesus can sovereignly and graciously reverse any results of curse (sickness, disease) anytime for anyone. James 4:2-3, Matthew 6:33
 - LEFC believes in miracles but healing is the exception, not the rule.
- Remember: greatest pursuit should be holiness, not health/comfort.
 - If healed: purpose is to glorify God and enable greater pursuit of holiness.
- If not healed: rejoice in grace/mercy already receive and trust in Jesus Christ alone.
 - He is drawing you to Himself to produce spiritual depth/growth
 - Faith that depends on miracles does not help endure hard times.

But keep praying for miracles: Jesus Christ still reversing results of curse for undeserving.