

E2E- Part 94a

Mark 1

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1. When John needs assurance that Jesus is really the Messiah, Jesus points him back to God's Word.
2. The people in ancient times believed the Messiah would bring all forms of purification. Leprosy was understood to be incurable and was a disease that made someone impure and defiled for life.
3. The fact that the man with leprosy ignores all social rules and laws to approach Jesus shows that he is desperate.
4. The man has no doubt that Jesus is able to heal him. He is asking if Jesus is willing to have mercy on him.
5. Jesus demonstrates that He *is* the Mercy Seat by touching the man before healing him completely. This was astonishing because no one had been healed from leprosy for 700 years.
6. Jesus delivers an Old Testament miracle in this moment that shows the awesomeness of God.
7. God allowed Elisha to perform this same miracle in 2 Kings 5 to demonstrate that God passionately cares about all people.
8. This miracle that Jesus performs also sets into motion the principle by which we can be recognized as Christ-followers: compassion for the broken-hearted and suffering people around us.
9. The healing the leper experienced caused him to spread the news of Jesus to everyone he knew to the extent that people in cities flocked to see Jesus from everywhere.

GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

Thrauo, (throw´-o); to crush: – bruise

Shabar (shaw-bar'); to *burst*:- break (down, in pieces), broken (-hearted), crush

Katharizo (kath-ar-id'-zo); to *cleanse*:- (make) clean, purge, purify

Hilasterion (hil-as-tay'-ree-on); an *expiatory* (place or thing), an atoning *victim*, or (special) the *lid* of the Ark (in the Temple) :- mercy seat

Tame' - (taw-may'); **to be foul**, especially in a moral sense (*contaminated*) :- defile, pollute, × utterly

TODAY'S WORSHIP

This is Our God
Yet not I but Through Christ in Me
A Thousand Hallelujahs
Come Thou Fount

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

John the Baptist, even after boldly preparing the way for Jesus, found himself in prison, questioning if Jesus was really the Expected One.

- Discuss: When life gets hard or doesn't look the way we expected, how easy is it for us to question God's plan?
- Have you had moments like John, where you needed reassurance?

Instead of breaking John out of prison, Jesus points him back to God's Word and the evidence of His work.

- What does that teach us about how God often works in our lives?
- How do we handle it when God doesn't "rescue" the way we hoped?

The leper was considered untouchable, rejected, and isolated, yet he risked everything to get to Jesus.

- Have you ever felt desperate for God's help like that?
- What barriers (fear, pride, opinions of others) keep us from getting to Jesus today?

Jesus could have healed the leper with a single word, yet He chose to touch him, defying social rules to show love and restore dignity.

- What does that reveal about the heart of Jesus?
- How should His example shape how we treat the people around us?

In biblical times, leprosy isolated people physically, socially, and spiritually, much like some wounds or struggles still do today.

- Consider things that isolate people today from the church.
- How can the church be a place that brings them in instead of pushing them out?

Jesus' compassion moved Him toward the hurting, even when it was uncomfortable or costly.

- Are there people or situations in your life right now that God might be asking you to step toward with compassion?
- What holds us back from doing that?

Challenge: This week, be intentional. Find one person who feels unseen or isolated, and show them the love of Jesus.

Prayer: Jesus, thank You for moving toward us. Help us move toward others with compassion.