

Mark 10:45 For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

6- A Servant Must Have Compassion *Mark 1:40-45*

The psalmist cried in *Psalms 86:15* *But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.*

In *Isaiah 49:15* God says, *Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.*

I- Curse of Leprosy- Curse of Sin

Mark 1:40 *And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.*

We saw in our last session that Jesus refreshed with the Father before moving into the day. The first event recorded in Mark that day was an encounter with a man who was a leper. Leprosy was a disease that caused families to be torn apart because the leper was in isolation with other lepers.

Easton Bible Dictionary says concerning the comparison of sin and leprosy:

Leprosy was "the outward and visible sign of the innermost spiritual corruption; a meet emblem in its small beginnings, its gradual spread, its internal disfigurement, its dissolution little by little of the whole body, of that which corrupts, degrades, and defiles man's inner nature, and renders him unmeet to enter the presence of a pure and holy God" (Maclear's Handbook O.T). Our Lord cured lepers (Mat 8:2, Mat 8:3; Mar 1:40-42). This divine power so manifested illustrates his gracious dealings with men in curing the leprosy of the soul the fatal taint of sin.

Beloved we see the need, the need of a leper to be healed, the need of a lost man to be free from sin.

II- Moved With Compassion

Mark 1:41 *And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.* Jesus was moved with compassion. Compassion means having a connection with the suffering of someone. It is a feeling that rises to the point of our stomach churning; a deep seated feeling of pity and sympathy. May I suggest when we are moved to compassion that it will excite us into action?

Please notice something that is of great significance in this verse. Jesus touched the leper. *Numbers 5:2* says *Command the children of Israel, that they put out of the camp every leper, and every one that hath an issue, and whosoever is defiled by the dead:* What should move our hearts to compassion? May I suggest a few? A child that is abused and wronged. I am not talking about a child that is being disciplined for its own good but abused. Another is an injustice that is done to an innocent person. We could go on and on with the list. But may I suggest one more; a person who does not know Christ as Savior.

III- The Cleansing

Mark 1:42 *And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.*

Jesus healed the man of this frightful disease. It says immediately he departed after his healing. May I suggest the greatest miracle is when a man is being delivered from the depth of sin; from a path of destruction that leads to hell and is set on his way to heaven by the blood of Christ and the touch of the Master.

IV- Getting the Word Out

The instruction to Jesus to the man is found in *Mark 1:43* *And he straitly charged him, and forthwith sent him away; 44* *And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.*

He told the man to go and do according to the law and not to tell the world. Notice what the man did. *Mark 1:45* *But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.*

Beloved do you not think it is time we are moved with compassion on a lost and dying world? Do we not need to spread the word that there is a healer in the house? We need to get the word out that there is one who understand and has compassion on sinners.