

One Out of Ten LUKE 17:11-19

INTRODUCTION

Turn in your Bible to **Luke 17:11-19**. In this passage we encounter 10 people who benefited from God's power but only one gave thanks. Ten people experienced grace, mercy and God's blessing yet only one was grateful. Ten people were blessed physically but only one enjoyed spiritual healing. Don't miss it: **one out of ten**.

I. The lepers' _____ (17:11-12)

The word "**leprosy**" was used in biblical times to designate a wide variety of serious skin diseases ranging from ringworm to true leprosy. **A person with leprosy was considered a walking corpse**. In Leviticus 13 seven forms of this skin disease are described.

Leprosy brought anguish at all levels: physical, mental, social, and religious. The Rabbis regarded leprosy as humanly incurable. Only twice does the Old Testament record that God cleansed a leper (Num 12:10-15; 2 Kings 5:1-14).

In the Bible, leprosy is far more than a disease. **Leprosy is a graphic illustration of sin**. Like leprosy, sin infects the whole person, and it is ugly, loathsome, corrupting, contaminating, alienating, and humanly incurable. **Lepers in ancient Israel were vivid object lessons of sin**. Though the leper was not worse or guiltier than his fellow-countrymen, **he was nevertheless a parable of sin – an outward visible sign of innermost corruption**.

Allow me to point out a few similarities between leprosy and sin:

- Leprosy is _____ than the skin -
Leviticus 13:3.
- Leprosy starts out _____ and then it
_____ - Leviticus 13:7.
- Leprosy _____ everything it touches -
Leviticus 13:44-46.
- Leprosy _____ - Leviticus 13:46.
- Leprosy _____ things for the
_____ - Leviticus 13:52.

II. The lepers' _____ (17:13)

This verse tells us that as Jesus was about to enter into the city, that these lepers, who had to stand afar off, began to cry, ***“Jesus, Master, have mercy on us”***. That was all that they could do. No physician could heal them, no medicine could cure them. They were completely helpless before the onslaught of this deadly disease. We like to think that we are sufficient, that we are capable of handling life, but the truth is, we are born helpless into this world, and we are helpless to stand before sin. We stand condemned by sin and we are totally helpless. All we can do is cry for mercy.

III. The Savior's _____ (17:14)

Jesus does not immediately heal these lepers. But instead, He gives them some instructions. He tells them to ***“Go and show yourselves to the priests.”***

The command itself is curious, for self-presentation to priests was the legal prescription for those who had ***already been healed*** (Lev 14:2–4). **Jesus commands the men to act on a reality that is not yet actual.**

IV. One leper's _____ (17:15-19)

- One out of ten truly _____ the work of God in His life (gratitude perceived)
- One out of ten gave _____ to gratitude (gratitude expressed)
- One out of ten _____ the complete work of God in his life (gratitude perfected)

Trust in Jesus—not ritual, sacrifice, or works—brings one into a right relationship with God, making one whole in body and spirit.

CONCLUSION

What can we take with us this morning? Please allow me to share with you two important truths that emerge from our study:

1. **Not everyone who trusts God for _____ trusts Him for _____**
2. **If not careful, believers can focus on the _____ of Christ when we should focus on _____.**