

The Ultimate Blessing

Matthew 5:8

Halifax: 30 November 2003

Isn't Jesus Christ a wonderful Saviour?

- The Beatitudes show us the rich blessings He pours out on His people in His kingdom!
- "Blessed, blessed, blessed"... He repeats it over and over.
 - His purpose in coming to this world was to bless every one of those the Father had given Him from before the foundation of the world.
 - Oh my Christian brothers and sisters,
 - Do you see Him this way?
 - It is so easy to lose sight of the fact that every single thing He does in your life is for your ultimate blessing...
 - He is never against you, but always for you.
 - Oh yes, I know He often has to chasten you and afflict you,
 - but in all the chastisement and all the affliction,
 - He is doing nothing else but preparing you for glory!
 - His purpose toward you is a purpose of grace.

The Beatitudes show you that when you come into His kingdom He graciously shows you the mess you are in!

1. He makes you poor in spirit—
 - shows you that you are spiritually bankrupt;
 - but He also promises to you who have seen that sad truth about yourselves that the kingdom of Heaven belongs to you.
2. He causes you to mourn over your condition,
 - breaking your heart about your sin;
 - but also promising that you will be comforted.
3. He shows you the futility of governing yourself so that you become meek before Him,
 - no longer asserting yourself, but gladly submitting to Him;
 - and promises to you in that state that you will inherit the earth.
4. And He gives you an appetite for righteousness—

- the righteousness He has shown you that you lack,
- promising that you will be filled!

After causing you to lose hope in yourself and to see your desperate need;

- He then causes you to hope in Him.

But He does not stop with these blessing for you dear child of God!

- When you come into His kingdom, He changes you into a new creation...

5. He makes you into a merciful person,

- and promises that you will be shown mercy.

6. He makes you pure in heart, and promises that you will see God.

- And it is to this promise that we come today:
 - Matthew 5:8: “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.”

I. They shall see God!

- **Beloved child of God,**
 - **to see God is the ultimate blessing—**
 - **it is the blessing of blessings!**

A. God created us to delight in beauty and glory...

1. You can still see something of this characteristic in fallen humanity.

a. You see mankind pursuing those things that he believes will give him delight and happiness...

- There is the glory of gold and diamonds,
 - and the glory of romance and sex,
 - and the glory of high performance cars or computers,
 - and the glory of athletic or academic achievement.

- There is the glory of good music and the glory of friends and the glory of honour and nobility and the glory of heroes.

b. Even though our fallen desires are often twisted and perverted, they can be very strong!

- People will do almost anything to gain the object of desire, the thing that they believe will make them glad and satisfied.

c. Of course there are some who have grown cynical and have given up pursuing anything, but the love for glory is still in their hearts—

- they are miserable only because they have despaired of finding what is good and excellent and noble.
2. But God constituted us with longings for glory for a certain reason!
- He made us this way in order that we might enjoy the discovery of Himself—
 - our great God and Creator whose excellence can never be exhausted by us,
 - even for all eternity!
 - He did not give us these desires to find their terminus in creature as they so often do now,
 - but in the Creator.
 - The glory of this world is not an end in itself, but is glorious in that it is a reflection of the Triune God.
- B. Those who are closest to God and have seen the most of Him in this world have were fully convinced that seeing God is the ultimate blessing!
1. You have Moses who cried out to Him,
- “Show me your glory.”
 - When God told Moses that He would not go with the people to the promised land, Moses refused to go...
 - Even though God assured Moses that He would send His angel to bring them there safely and to drive out their enemies, Moses said,
 - Exodus 33:15-16: Then he said to Him, “If Your Presence does not go *with us*, do not bring us up from here. For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who *are* upon the face of the earth.”
 - Moses was not interested in merely gaining the land.
 - He knew that the only thing that made God’s people unique was that God was with them, revealing Himself to them that they might worship.
 - Moses could have had all the land and riches he wanted back in Egypt if that had been all he was looking for...
 - he came out in the wilderness with these people because he wanted to be with God and to see God’s glory.
 - He knew that seeing God was the ultimate blessing and the supreme excellence,
 - That is why he left all the glories of Egypt.

- What about it Christian?
 - Would you be satisfied as long as God gives you a good job, good health, a good family, a comfortable life?
 - Would it matter to you if He was out of the picture so long as you could have those things from now on?
 - Or do you live to know Him?
1. David is another fine example of one who knew the ultimate blessing was to see God.
 - In Psalm 27:4, he said:
 - Ps 27:4: One *thing* I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.
 - In Psalm 17:14, he asked to be delivered:
 - Ps. 17:14: From men of the world *who have* their portion in *this* life, And whose belly You fill with Your hidden treasure. They are satisfied with children, And leave the rest of their *possession* for their babes.
 - Then in v. 15 he added:
 - Ps 17:15: As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.
 - David's portion was not in this life, but he longed to behold the glory of God.
 - He knew that that was the ultimate blessing!
 2. Then there is Job who in the midst of all his affliction declared his ultimate hope with these words:
 - Job 19:25-27: For I know *that* my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; And after my skin is destroyed, this *I know*, That in my flesh I shall see God, Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. *How* my heart yearns within me!
 - He complained that it was very difficult to see God when he was so severely afflicted,
 - but the hope that sustained him was the certainty that he **would** see God.
 3. Then you have Paul whose whole life can only be explained by his desire to see God.
 - There he is, enduring all kinds of affliction in his service to God with this one great hope:
 - "that I might know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings."

- Paul's life is so challenging to us because he was so clear about wanting to see Jesus and to know Him.
 - He truly rejoiced in **anything** that would further that knowledge of Christ, no matter how painful it might be.
 - "That I might know Him"—
 - that was why he did what he did and endured what he endured.
4. But above all, you have Jesus who gave all in order that **we, His people**, might behold the glory that He had with the Father from before the foundation of the world!
- He went to the cross so that we might see God!
 - a. He even defines the eternal life He came to give us in this way:
 - John 17:3: "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent."
 - b. This hope of causing us to see God is what excited Jesus and carried Him along in the arduous work of redeeming us. He said,
 - John 17:24: Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.
 - Jesus came with the ultimate purpose that **we** might see God!
 - It is in the vision of God that we will find all that is good. This is where you will find unsurpassing glory that will grip you forever and ever!
 - c. Long before He came to this world, He counseled us that the ultimate blessing is in seeing God.
 - In Jeremiah 9:23, He said:
 - "Let not the wise *man* glory in his wisdom, Let not the mighty *man* glory in his might, Nor let the rich *man* glory in his riches; But let him who glories glory in this, That he understands and knows Me, That I *am* the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD.
- A. And here we are given to understand what seeing (or knowing) God is all about.
- He reveals Himself to us by interacting with us...
 1. You can see Him exercising "lovingkindness, judgement, and righteousness in His work of creation."

- a. See His lovingkindness in providing Adam with the rich blessings of companionship, with food and drink, with precious things like gold and jewels, and in supplying him with righteousness.
 - b. See His judgement in governing Adam with wise counsel and establishing he and his wife in their respective callings.
 - c. And see His righteousness in expelling them when they sinned against Him and sentencing them to the punishment they deserved...
 - He could not dwell near to them in their rebellion.
2. But brothers and sisters, how much more have you been given to see after God has opened your eyes to the gospel of His Son!
- Talk about knowing Him as the One who exercises lovingkindness, judgement and righteousness in the earth!
- a. What lovingkindness indeed that God should come to sinful rebels who are so corrupted in sin that they don't even want His grace—
 - and who are so guilty that they fully deserve nothing less than eternity in Hell...
 - to come to **them** and redeem **them** at the cost of His Son's blood on the cross!
 - Perchance for a good man someone would even dare to die, but God commends His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us!
 - What lovingkindness this!
 - Oh that we might grasp the height and the depth and breadth of it!
 - How pitiful our affections that we should quarrel with God because mercy is not shown to all when such mercy as this is shown to any!
 - See Him!
 - See the glory of His lovingkindness!
 - This is the glory that you will marvel at for all eternity brothers and sisters!
 - You will never plumb the depths of His mercy in the cross,
 - but how much richer will your grasp of it be in Heaven when the veil is taken away from your eyes than it is now!
 - b. At this cross you see the glory of His judgement—
 - He is LORD and as Lord he reigns from the tree!
 - He governs us as the Lord who laid down His life for us, and now He guides us in laying down our lives for one another!

- He sends out His servants to teach His people that they might observe all that He has commanded.
- c. And here you see His righteousness...
- In that in order to meet out justice,
 - the cross shows that it was necessary for the Son of God to die in our place.
 - Nothing else could satisfy the perfect righteousness of your God!

TRANS> At creation and even more at the cross, the pure in heart see the glory of the LORD who exercises lovingkindness, judgement, and righteousness in the earth!

3. This is what it means to see God!
- a. This seeing God begins as soon as you enter into His kingdom in truth!
- From the moment of your conversion, you begin to see His glory...
 - You begin to see Him as your God...
 - You begin to see Him so as to become like Him...
 - You begin to see Him so as to enjoy Him and be satisfied with Him...
 - And you begin to see Him forever and ever.
- b. Be sure that you learn to glory in the cross—in knowing God through the cross!
- 1) Too often today believers will focus only on what God is doing in their daily lives and never move on to the cross!
- They will see His hand in bringing things together for purchasing a home or in giving them some special opportunity prayed for...
 - And that is great—they ought to see Him in those things...
 - God forbid if we don't see and know Him in our daily circumstances!
- 2) But God forbid if that is as far as it goes!
- Woe to us if we are so concerned about His daily provisions for us that we do not meditate on the cross and His glory revealed there!
 - I knew a man who focused on these daily things better than most do...
 - He always had testimonies about how God had provided or how God had worked things out in his life...
 - but he did not have a lot to say about the cross!
 - He turned back from his discipleship and has never returned.

- If all you see are the day to day provisions and you do not glory in the cross,
 - you can be sure that when real trouble comes, you will not be prepared for it!
 - Only when you see the exercise of God’s mercy and judgement in Christ will you see the glory of God as you ought.
- c. But brothers and sisters, this seeing of God is something that we are just getting started at in this life!
- 1) The Bible is full of promises that when we go to Heaven, we will see Him as He much more completely than we do now!
 - Now, we see through a glass darkly, but then it will be face to face!
 - Whatever that means, is surely means that our vision of Him will be greatly expanded—greatly enhanced!
 - Then we will be satisfied and filled with delight in the beautiful and glorious vision of God that will last us for all eternity!
 - In your God is inexhaustible glory, and you will see it!
 - How full you will be, how satisfied, how pleased!
 - 2) When Ezekiel wanted to proclaim the glory of God’s city, He told us that it was in this:
 - “The name of city from that day shall be, “The LORD is there.”
 - 3) This is the same way that John described the glory of the eternal city of God in Revelation:
 - Rev 21:22-23: But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb *is* its light.
 - If you are blessed in His kingdom, my brothers and sisters, you will see this glory forever and ever!
 - Seeing God is the ultimate blessing!

I. But I must tell you that you can’t see Him unless your heart is pure!

A. Jesus does not say:

- “Blessed is everyone, for everyone shall see God...”
- He says, “Blessed are the pure in heart, for **they** shall see God.”

1. This statement is a limiting statement—

- The word **they** in emphatic.

- Jesus is saying: “**they** shall see God”—those who are pure in heart to the exclusion of others.
2. The same thing is stated negatively in Hebrews 12:14.
- It says:
 - Heb 12:14: Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:
 - Here is the same connection between purity and seeing God.
 - Those who lack it will not see God.

B. What is this purity that Jesus speaks of here?

1. It is a purity of heart.
- a. When we speak of the heart in our society, we are usually talking about the emotions.
 - But when the Bible speaks of the heart it is a more comprehensive term...
 - It refers to the inner person in contrast to the outer person.
 - It includes not only the emotions,
 - but also the motives, the thoughts, the will—
 - everything that is on the inside.
 - b. You need to understand that the heart is very important in true religion because the true God is able to see the heart!
 - Man can only look on the outward appearance, but God sees your heart!
 - He knows all your thoughts and intents, He sees all of your motives and desires.
 - There is nothing that is hidden from Him.
 - c. That’s why it’s so important that your heart is pure!
 - 1) The Pharisees in Jesus’ day had completely missed this point...
 - They had a million regulations they had added to God’s commandments,
 - and they were so concerned about ceremonial and eternal purity that they neglected the heart.
 - But Jesus graciously comes and tells them that the heart is the most important part!
 - Some of them were awakened by His call.
 - 2) One time He told them,

- Matthew 23:25-28: "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also. Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead *men's* bones and all uncleanness. Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness."
- This is a warning for anyone who is in God's kingdom and who only worries about what other people think of you and who does not walk before God.
 - If you are only concerned about what other people see and you do not care what God sees, you are playing the hypocrite.
 - This can be a very subtle thing and you must be careful that you are not deceived.

3) And, as I showed you last week, God rejects what is unclean.

- The word pure here is the same as the word unclean in 1 Cor. 7:14 without the negative prefix.
- And you remember I showed you that an unclean thing is something that God despises and rejects...
 - So it makes sense that in Matthew 5:8,
 - Jesus tells us that you will see God only if your heart is pure.
 - If it is not pure,
 - even though the outside may appear fine to all your friends and neighbours—you will not see God!

2. Let me tell you some characteristics of a pure heart.

a. First and foremost, it is a heart that truly receives God's word as God's word.

- 1) When God issues a threat,
 - the pure heart doesn't alter the threat to avoid the threat, but it trembles.
- 2) When God issues a promise,
 - the pure heart does not come away doubting and questioning,
 - but believing all that God has said.
- 3) When God issues a command,
 - the pure heart does not begin to twist and distort the command to say something different,
 - but conforms to what God has spoken.

- 4) When God reveals something about Himself, the pure heart doesn't reinterpret it to suit its own interests.
 - This is so common today!
 - The modern church has almost completely reinvented God to be a God who has no wrath of judgement.
 - Almost never is God praised for His wrath and judgement of sinners in the contemporary church's songs...
 - This is the same view of God that was popular in Jeremiah's day—
 - It is a god whose prophets say "peace, peace" when there is no peace.
 - They tell lies because they don't want to speak about God's wrath and judgement,
 - and the people they speak to don't want to hear about it.
- b. One of the reasons the pure heart readily receives God's word is because the pure heart is not divided.
 - 1) When something is corrupted, it has impurities mixed in with it...
 - It is not single...
 - it is not pure gold, but gold plus some impurity.
 - 2) A pure heart is one that is united to fear God's name... united with itself.
 - When you are doubleminded you go from trying to please one master to trying to please another master
 - In one matter, the love money controls you;
 - in the next, the fear of what the neighbours might think controls you;
 - and in the next, your love for God is in view.
 - c. What all this really boils down to is this:
 - 1) The man with the corrupt heart says, "There is no God."
 - He doesn't usually say it outwardly, but he says it in his heart!
 - He doesn't even say it to himself in so many words, but he lives as if there is no God.
 - 2) To him, God is not really real...
 - His promises and His threats and His commands are not really from a living person...

- God and all that is associated with Him only exists in the world of ideas.
 - The ideas are important,
 - but they can be adjusted at will because there is no person standing behind the Word that has been spoken.
- 3) O my friends, this is a real problem for us!
- How many times do you worship the air because God is not real to you!
 - How many times do you indulge wicked desires and thoughts that you would not dare publish before your friends at church—
 - How can you do that?
 - If God is real, how can you parade such things before Him that you would be ashamed to parade before other people?
 - Is it not because God is not real to you—
 - because you are saying in your heart, “there is no God?”
3. Do you see why it is that you don’t see God?
- You can’t know someone that you don’t regard as being real!
 - The corrupt heart doesn’t see Him because it pushes Him out.
 - It distorts His truth and produces idols after its own desires.
 - It has other loves that it delights in,
 - and because it is focused on these loves—
 - on riches or honours or pleasures—it can’t see the glory of God.
 - Or it is so full of malice or envy or bitterness that there is no room for God there.
 - The corrupt heart can’t see God because it has all this corruption that blinds it.
 - Not only does the corruption cause God to be offended so that He will not show Himself there,
 - It also excludes Him because it is so concerned about other things that God is pushed to the sidelines!

II. How can you get a pure heart?

A. Well let me begin by saying that it is your duty to purify your heart.

1. The Bible tells you this over and over.

- De 10:16 "Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer.
 - Isa 1:16-17: Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow.
 - 2 Cor 7:1: Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us **cleanse** ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
 - James 4:8: Cleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners; and **purify** *your* hearts, *you* double-minded.
2. It only makes sense that if your heart has become corrupted,
- then it is **your** duty to clean it up!
 - That is the duty that every human being has in this world because every human being (with the exception of Jesus) comes into this world with a corrupt heart.
- B. But if you are at all honest, you will find that you can't purify your heart.
1. I read an account about a pastor who was speaking to a woman...
- She told the pastor on no uncertain terms that she did not believe in total depravity and that she was also a Unitarian.
 - He asked her if she believed it was her duty to act on what she did believe.
 - She agreed and admitted that it was her duty to purify her heart and agreed that she would get to work on it.
 - Some weeks later he found her in a very troubled state...
 - She had gone to work and had found it impossible to live up even to her own principles.
 - She told the pastor that she now believed in total depravity and had need of a divine Saviour.
2. Martin Luther had the very same sort of experience.
- He went into a monastery and laboured hard to make his heart pure.
 - After much labour and struggle, he became more and more frustrated.
 - But through the scriptures and the witness of John Stan Dunc,
 - he learned that Jesus Christ was the only one who could save Him, and that He came to justify the ungodly.
 - Luther came to Jesus and was purified.
3. It is your duty to purify your heart, but it is a duty that you cannot perform no matter how hard you try!

- Remember what I have pointed out before about the beatitudes!
 - They are all connected!
- This pure-in-heart-person in Matthew 5:8, is the very same person who has already been called poor in spirit,
 - He is the same person who mourns over his spiritual condition and is looking outside of self to Jesus Christ for righteousness.
- This pure in heart person didn't just show up out of thin air!
 - He first gave up on reforming himself and began hungering for the righteousness that Jesus alone can give.
 - He looked to Jesus for the righteousness that He came to bring into this fallen world...
 - And it was then that his heart was purified.

C. The good news is that Jesus promises to purify you if you will look to Him!

1. This purification of your heart is promised again and again in the Bible.
 - a. As I pointed out last week, the Old Testament ceremonies were designed to show you that you had to be cleansed by God...
 - that you could not cleanse yourself, but had to look to God's appointed priest to cleanse you when you were defiled.
 - b. Not only that, but God also **told** His people that He would cleanse their heart!
 - 1) In Deuteronomy 30 v. 6, which we read this morning, it is written:
 - "And the LORD your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.
 - This is nothing else but a promise of the cleansing of the heart...
 - God says that He Himself will do it!
 - 2) In Isaiah after commanding "Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean," He adds the promise:
 - Isa 1:18: "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.
 - 3) In Jeremiah 31, God promised:
 - Jer 31:33: "But this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

- Interestingly, in the very next verse the LORD goes on to speak about how as a result of this, they will **know** Him...
 - In other words, He will purify their hearts and the result will be that they will all **see** or **know** Him.
 - “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will **see** God.”
 - When He purifies your heart,
 - God makes you a recipient of His Word...
 - He writes it in your heart so that it is not just an external thing, but a thing believed in your heart.
- 4) In Ezekiel 36, this promise to purify the heart is described as a work of God’s Spirit.
- Ezekiel 36:25-29: Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*. Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God. I will deliver you from all your uncleanness.
 - The emphasis here is clearly on purifying the heart of sinners, a work that is attributed to God’s Spirit.
2. Now what have we already seen in Matthew’s gospel about Jesus Christ?
- a. John introduced Him as the one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit!
 - Here is that cleansing of the heart that God had promised!
 - It is the work that Jesus Christ accomplishes by the Holy Spirit, without which no one can see the kingdom of God.
 - It is the new birth in which a new heart is given to God’s elect!
 - b. All through the New Testament, Jesus is presented to us as the One who cleanses the heart.
 - Of the Gentiles, the counsel at Jerusalem concluded:
 - Acts 15:8-9: "So God, who knows the heart, acknowledged them by giving them the Holy Spirit, just as *He did* to us, and made no distinction between us and them, **purifying** their **hearts** by faith.
 - Paul spoke to Titus of Jesus Christ...
 - Titus 2:14: who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and **purify** for Himself *His* own special people, zealous for good works.

- c. You can't purify your own heart, but you must come to Him!
 - And do you know what happens as soon as your heart is purified by Him?
 - You see God as He is revealed in Jesus!
 - You come to know Him as He is in truth!
 - You see His lovingkindness and His judgement and His righteousness revealed in the gospel!

- 3. And brothers and sisters, this cleansing of your heart that enables you more and more to see God is a work that He continues to perform in you until it is perfected!
 - The final promise is that when we see Him, we shall be like Him because we shall see Him as He is.
 - The purification will be complete and will lack nothing at all.

- 4. But let me clarify one thing
 - a. This work of purification, this changing your heart, is what enables you to see God....
 - But it is **not** the work that enables God to accept you.
 - You are a sinner and you need more than a mere transformation to be accepted of God!
 - There is guilt upon you that must be atoned for!
 - You must meet the demands of God's law which require eternal death for sinners...
 - Purifying your heart cannot accomplish that.

 - b. When the Spirit changes your heart He makes you able to believe the promise of God to justify you,
 - He causes you to look to the blood of Christ that was shed on the cross to atone for your sin as the only thing that can make you acceptable to God.
 - The purification I have spoken of today changes you from a God hater to a lover of God—
 - and brings you to rest in and delight in that other purification that comes through the death of the Son of God for your sins and by the imputation of His righteousness.
 - The new birth causes you to delight in Him alone as your righteousness, and so to know God, as I spoke about before, as He is revealed to in the cross...
 - To see His lovingkindness and His judgement and His righteousness revealed in Christ crucified.

So in closing, let me ask you...

- Do you want a pure heart so that you might see God?
- Do you want to be clean?
 - Then learn a lesson from the poor leper who came to Jesus in Mark 1:40:
 - Mark 1:40-42: Now a leper came to Him, imploring Him, kneeling down to Him and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out *His* hand and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed." As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed.
 - That account is not given to teach you how to deal with leprosy!
 - It is given to teach you how deal with the impurity of your heart!
 - Come to Jesus and He will make you clean!