

LUKE

THE SAVIOR'S SAGA

FOR THE SON OF MAN
CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE
THAT WHICH WAS LOST

THE TEN LEPERS

LUKE 17:11-19

What was leprosy?

- **It was a slow death sentence!**
- **Leprosy** as a disease is a constant reminder of just how much things have changed since God pronounced a curse on the earth.
- ***These ten lepers in our passage today*** were suffering from the sinfulness of the world, and that sinfulness is still with us!

IT'S ALL GOOD

In **Genesis chapter 1**, at first, everything was “*very good*,” but Adam’s sin brought death and decay into the world.

- One of the most well-known examples of debilitating disease in this sin-cursed creation we live in is ***Mycobacterium leprae***, the infectious bacterial agent of leprosy.
- The term “*leprosy*,” including the words *leper*, *lepers*, *leprosy*, and *leprous* occur 68 times in the Bible.

A VERY VALUABLE LESSON INDEED

Leprosy and its comparison to sin illustrates important spiritual lessons even today.

- Studying leprosy helps us to see why pain is a valuable “gift.” When you understand its purpose, **it helps us see our sin.**
 - Sin Desensitizes
 - Sin Corrupts
 - Sin Controls
 - Sin Deforms
 - Sin Ultimately Kills

THE HISTORY OF THIS HORROR

An understanding of leprosy:

- The term “Hansen’s Disease” was not given until 1873, when **Gerhard Henrik Armauer Hansen** discovered the leprosy bacillus.
- But leprosy has terrified humanity since ancient times and was reported as early as 600 BC in India, China, and Egypt.
- **Hansen’s disease is still a major health problem in many parts of Africa, Asia, and Latin America.**
- For many centuries, leprosy was considered a curse of God, often associated with sin, including at Kalaupapa, Molakai, Hawaii.

Leprosy

- Desensitizes
- Corrupts
- Controls
- Deforms
- And Ultimately Kills



THE POWER OF THE PUTRID

The rottenness and infection of leprosy

Yet Jesus freely touched people with leprosy—and spiritual leprosy, **sin.**

- Jesus broke from the tradition of separation and humiliation.
- **Jesus treated lepers with compassion, touching and healing them. He willingly touched their putrid parts.**
- Biblical leprosy is a powerful symbol reminding us of sin's spread and its horrible consequences.
- All of us were once nothing but poor, rotting lepers. We were all *dead in our trespasses and sin*—no feeling whatsoever in our spiritual extremities! ***Eph. 2:1-2***

THE PURPOSE OF OUR PAIN

God has a plan to use our pain to drive us to the Cross where we will be touched by the grace of the Lord Jesus.

**The scars and pain of both leprosy and sin
can be healed by meeting Jesus!**

1. THE MEETING *v. 11-12*

Hope revived in their hearts. This was Jesus the healer!

- He had healed many lepers; maybe He would heal them.
- Do you see the lost and hurting lepers the way Jesus did?
- Do you go out of your way to minister to the hurting, the outcast?

THE MERCY AND MIRACLE OF THE MASTER

2. THE MASTER *v. 13-14a*

Jesus actually wants to heal our brokenness, to touch our rottenness, so that the infection of sin can be cleansed.

- Of course Jesus would touch them
- But He would also ask them to step out in faith, act on His mercy, and show their faith by their works. *James 2:18*

3. THE MIRACLE *v. 14b*

- They were cleansed!
- All ten of them, including the Samaritan!

ONE HAPPY GUY

4. THE MAN—THE GRATEFUL OUTCAST **v. 15-19**

- Where could the Samaritan go?
- Who would pronounce him to be clean?

Jesus, of course! 1 John 1:9 was about to get very real to him—**Jesus delights to touch lepers!**

- We are no longer outcasts and orphans, but adopted children of the King that will inherit the Kingdom!
- We are no longer deformed children of the devil, but divine kids of the King of Glory.

**Oh, how we need to thank Jesus for cleansing
the leprosy of our sin!**