

John 5:1-15

John 5:1-5 – *“(1) After this [note: after Jesus’ second miracle – John 4:46-54] there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. (2) Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. (3) In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. (4) For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had. (5) And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.”*

- A. Multitudes of ailing individuals were waiting for healing waters (**Jeremiah 17:12-14**).
 - 1. God displayed power over water throughout the Bible (**Genesis 6:19-24, Exodus 7:19, Exodus 14:26-31, Joshua 3:13-15, Isaiah 42:15, Matthew 14:24-33, Mark 4:36-41, and Acts 14:17**).
 - 2. God did use water to save physically (**II Kings 5:1-14**) and does use water to save spiritually (**I Peter 3:20-21**).
- B. An angel came and caused the waters to have healing powers because angels did perform wonders (**Judges 13:15-21**).
 - 1. Angels do the works of God (**Psalms 104:4 and Acts 8:26**).
 - 2. Angels not only brought healing, but also brought destruction (**II Kings 19:35, Acts 12:20-23, and Revelation 16:1**).
- C. Notice in verse two that when God wants historical/geographical facts to be known He declares it.
 - 1. It is not necessarily “wrong” to use non-inspired sources in teaching, providing that that information concurs with the word of God (**Acts 17:28 and Titus 1:12**).
 - 2. Whether it is dictionaries, world history books, etc.; we need to remember that these are not our sources for “THE TRUTH” (**John 17:17 and II Timothy 3:15-17**).
 - 3. If the word of God does not teach something, we must not seek secular sources to try and fit something into God’s word that is not there (**I Corinthians 4:6 and Revelation 22:18-19**).

John 5:6-9 – *“(6) When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole? (7) The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me. (8) Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. (9) And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.”*

- A. Jesus showed compassion on the one who was always unable to reach the water in time to be healed (**Matthew 14:14**).
 - 1. No one was aiding this helpless man (**Proverbs 21:13 and Proverbs 24:11-12**).
 - 2. Those who are not merciful will be shown no mercy by God (**James 2:13**).

B. Jesus says “Rise, take up thy bed, and walk” because Jesus did not need any medical help to heal this man (cf. **Acts 3:1-8**).

1. Jesus did not need to wait for the help of an angel (**Matthew 15:30-31** and **Luke 7:21-23**).
2. The children of Israel should have rejoiced in seeing Christ healing the sick (**Isaiah 35:2-10**).
3. In our study of this context, let’s be careful in remembering that the age of miracles has ceased (**I Corinthians 12:31; 13:8-13**).

John 5:10-15 – *“(10) The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed. (11) He answered them, He that made me whole, the same said unto me, Take up thy bed, and walk. (12) Then asked they him, What man is that which said unto thee, Take up thy bed, and walk? (13) And he that was healed wist not who it was: for Jesus had conveyed himself away, a multitude being in that place. (14) Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee. (15) The man departed, and told the Jews that it was Jesus, which had made him whole”.*

A. The authority of Christ over the Sabbath Day (**Mark 2:27-28**).

1. It was not right to work on the Sabbath (**Exodus 20:8-11** and **Jeremiah 17:21**).
2. Jesus had the authority to command this man to carry his bed on the Sabbath Day (**Matthew 12:1-8**; cf. **John 9:16**).

B. Sin no more (**John 8:1-11**), lest a worse thing come unto thee (**Romans 6:23**).

1. Those who serve God cease from sin (**Psalms 34:14, Proverbs 3:7, Proverbs 28:13, II Corinthians 7:1, Ephesians 4:17-22, II Timothy 2:19, and I Peter 4:1**).
2. One cannot serve Christ and continue in sin (**Romans 6:1-2**).