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Safe Harbor Baptist Church

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## **"Giving him Thanks"**

Luke 17:11-19

### Introduction:

1. A *Direct Course*. Vs 11

*"And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee."*

Everywhere Jesus went in his earthly ministry, he went with a purpose and reason!

Luke 19:10 *For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.*

In this context he is going to Jerusalem. And this will be the last time he will go to Jerusalem, because when he gets there, he will be crucified for the sins of the world.

2. A *Deadly Condition*. Vs 12

*And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:*

A. They were *Defiled*. Vs 12

*"there met him ten men that were lepers,"*

We only know of 3 people in the Old Testament that was ever healed of leprosy. Moses, Miriam and Naaman.

This was a dreaded disease, and throughout God's word it is a type and picture of Sin.

A. It's deeper than Skin.

Lev 13:3 *And the priest shall look on the plague in the skin of the flesh: and when the hair in the plague is turned white, and the plague in sight be*

*deeper than the skin of his flesh, it is a plague of leprosy: and the priest shall look on him, and pronounce him unclean.*

B. It defiles, spreads and separates.

*Lev 13:4-5 If the bright spot be white in the skin of his flesh, and in sight be not deeper than the skin, and the hair thereof be not turned white; then the priest shall shut up him that hath the plague seven days:*

*5 And the priest shall look on him the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague in his sight be at a stay, and the plague spread not in the skin; then the priest shall shut him up seven days more:*

C. It renders things only fit for the fire.

Lev 13:52- Whatever items came in contact with the one who had leprosy had to be burned with fire.

One man stated that the horrible thing about leprosy is that it is a “painless killer”.

Meaning that it would eat away at you physically but you would not feel pain.

This describes how sin works!

People who were diagnosed with leprosy would often die.

B. They were *Distant. Vs 12*

*“which stood afar off:”*

*Leviticus 14:44-46 He is a leprous man, he is unclean: the priest shall pronounce him utterly unclean; his plague is in his head.*

*45 And the leper in whom the plague is, his clothes shall be rent, and his head bare, and he shall put a covering upon his upper lip, and shall cry, Unclean, unclean.*

*46 All the days wherein the plague shall be in him he shall be defiled; he is unclean: he shall dwell alone; without the camp shall his habitation be.*

*Ephesians 2:11-12 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;*

*12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and **strangers** from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:*

**3. A Desperate Cry.** Vs 13

**A. They cried to the *Master*.**

*And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master,*

These men obviously had a knowledge of who Jesus was because they cried to him and they called him Master.

**B. They cried out for *Mercy*.**

*have mercy on us.*

They did not ask for a Miracle, they asked for mercy!

**4. A Distinct Command.** Vs 14a

*And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests.*

The command that the LORD gave these men was given by Moses in Leviticus 14.

These men going to the Priest was an act of Faith. The reason that is the case is because the Leper was not to go and show himself to the Priest until he had believed that his leprosy had been cured.

Thus, these men were acting by faith when they went to the Priest.

Point: If an individual is going to be cleansed from their sin, then they must respond by faith!

**5. A Definite Change.** Vs 14b

*And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.*

Because they responded in faith the word of God tells us that they were cleansed.

Meaning that the infirmity of their sickness was taken away!

We learn a great lesson here that when one obeys the word of God, by faith there will be a change!

6. A *Deliberate Choice*. Vs 15-19

*And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,*

*16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.*

*17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?*

*18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.*

*19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.*

We find in these verses that one man out of the ten that were made clean, returned to show his appreciation and thanksgiving unto the LORD.

I believe in typology we could say that all ten men were “saved” but not all ten showed sincere appreciation for what the LORD had done for them!

Being unthankful is a terrible sin!

Romans 1:18-21 *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*

*19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.*

*20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:*

*21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.*

Bro. Eddie Davis said: *“Being unthankful is a sign that you are on the road to Reprobation”*

II Timothy 3:1-5 *This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.*

*2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,*

*3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,*

*4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;*

*5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*

*“An unthankful heart is fertile soil for all kinds of sins”*- Warren Weirsbe

Within the context of Vs 15-19 I would consider this Samaritan's thanksgiving and I would like to emphasize 3 truths concerning this subject of **“Giving him thanks”**.

### End of Introduction

I. The *Beauty* of this Thanksgiving.

When I look at this man's thanksgiving, I see it as a beautiful scene.

*1. The Individual Discovery.* Vs 15

*And one of them, when he saw that he was healed,*

Can you imagine the scene when this man who had been a leper and had been separated from those, he loved realized that a change had taken place in his life?

He immediately recognized that something was different, he was no longer the same!

No one else might have notice the change right off, but he knew that something was different!

## 2. The *Implications Discerned*. Vs 15

*when he saw that he was healed,*

He figured out that things were no longer the same in his life, he had been healed!

What did this mean? What was implicated by this healing?

II Corinthians 5:17 *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

**A.** His *Life* is now different.

He is no longer a leper!

**B.** His *Location* is now different.

He was allowed to leave the leper colony! He can go back home!

♪ ♪ “Thanks to Calvary I am not the man I used to be, thanks to Calvary, things are different than before. And while the tears ran down my face I tried to tell them, thanks to Calvary I don’t live here anymore” ♪ ♪

**C.** His *Language* is now different.

No longer is he crying out “Unclean, Unclean” but now he is crying out “Thank you Jesus, Thank you Jesus”

## 3. The *Intentional Decision*. Vs 15

*turned back,*

When he realized the change and difference that was made in his life, he made a decision to turn back and go to Jesus.

If you are going to be thankful, then you are going to have to make an intentional decision

II. The *Boldness* of this Thanksgiving.

This man was not ashamed to be bold in his thanksgiving!

1. It was *Public Exhibit*. Vs 15a

*And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back,*

I believe in private thanksgiving, meaning that in your time of prayer before the LORD it is right and proper to thank the LORD for his blessings and kindness in your life!

But it is also scriptural to express thanksgiving to the LORD in a public manner!

Psalm 100:4 *Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.*

**2.** It was *Proclaimed Expression. Vs 15b*

*and with a loud voice glorified God,*

He not only “Showed” his thankfulness but he “Said” he was thankful!

Notice this Proclaimed Expression was:

**A.** It was *LOUD!*

“with a loud voice”

**B.** To the *LORD!*

“glorified God”

Psalm 107:1-2 *O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*

*2 Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;*

**3.** It was *Proper Etiquette. Vs 16a*

*And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks:*

This man is not being prideful, neither is he trying to draw attention to himself but rather he is showing humility by kneeling at the feet of Jesus.

James 4:6 *But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.*

**4.** It was *Personal Effectiveness. Vs 16b*

*and he was a Samaritan.*

Why did the other nine keep on going but this one man stops and return to give thanks?

Notice the text tells us that he was Samaritan, meaning he was a half-breed.

He would have been rejected by the Jews, meaning that he could not go before the Priest.

But he could go before the “Great High Priest”

III. The *Benefits* of this Thanksgiving.

*What did thanksgiving do for this Sarmatian?*

*1. Closeness.*

*And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks:*

*“His healing has brought him much nearer Jesus than before, and now he can fall at His feet. Thankfulness knits us to Jesus with a blessed bond. Nothing is so sweet to a loving heart as to pour itself out in thanks to Him.” F.B. Myer*

Being thankful will bring you closer to the Saviour!

People that get away from the LORD and get out of Church are people who are not thankful.

Critical people are unthankful people!

*2. Communion. Vs 17*

*And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?*

This man conversed with Jesus Christ as a result of this thankfulness.

*3. Consideration. Vs 18*

*There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.*

Notice there is an absence in this verse. Ten men were cleansed, but only one returned to give thanks.

Notice the wording of the text: “There are not found”

The word “There” in this text means “a place”. The place in this context would be the feet of Jesus!



Some people in testimony services will not stand and thank the LORD because someone else had already thanked the LORD for what they were going to thank the LORD for.

But consider this, If all 10 men had returned, they would have all have said the same thing to the LORD!

They would have all said “Thank you for making me clean”.

Make sure the LORD knows you are thankful!

#### *4. Completeness. Vs 19*

*And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.*

The word “Whole” means Restored to health and soundness.

I believe that this means that what he lost, was restored back to him!

Point: Thanksgiving will complete areas of your life that are lacking!

#### **Conclusion:**

If all you had today was what you thanked God for on yesterday, what would you have today?