

The Healing By the Pool

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John 5:1-15

Oak Community Church (PCA)

A Shift of Style

- John is introducing us the 'winds of hostility' that are starting to blow...
- Jesus encountered a human tragedy at the pool of Bethesda
- *multitude*>*plethos*>*plethora*... this was an intense scene of sadness
- pool near Sheep Gate - likely where Jesus was led when arrested^{MT26:57}
- John wants us to see this man as representing man's powerless condition

Biblical Truths

- we were originally created to obey God & worship Him^{Gen1:27,31}
- Adam rebelled^{Gen3:7} and all mankind fell in Adam
- Original Sin - not an event but a condition, we are dead spiritually^{1Cor2:14;Eph2:1-2}
- Total Depravity - we are corrupted in every part of our nature^{Rm3:10;Ps51:5}
- Original Sin = 'why' of our condition. Total Depravity = 'what' of our nature
- This scene at the pool of Bethesda represents us - unable to help ourselves

The Failure of Religion

- Jesus shows mercy to this one man⁵⁻⁶
- man was needy & helpless^{38yrs} religion, society has abandoned him...
- Jesus asked⁶, *do you want to be healed?* Healing would mean drastic change

The Man's Answer

- man had no clue who Jesus was... looking to physical solution & myth...
- v4>*Textus Receptus*. *Critical Text* doesn't have v4 - likely added later
- this man was looking to technique, superstition, or objects for power
- True religion looks to God alone - Jesus, not mystical power or rituals

Jesus Pours out His Grace to an Undeserving Man

- Simple command: *get up, take up your bed and walk*⁸
- Man was immediately healed by Jesus

Brewing Storms of Trouble

- John shows us Jews worry about their laws over God's grace & healing
- Was man breaking 4th commandment^{Ex20:8-11?}
- Man was breaking 39th rule of Jewish rabbinical Sabbath keeping - carrying
- Sadly the Jews missed miracle and focused on man-made restrictions

What Kind of Witness?

- Challenged man passes blame¹¹ Fearful of religious establishment^{Lk12:8-9}
- doesn't teach that sins lead to calamity^{Jn9:3;Lk13:2-5}
- Focus is NOT on this man or his sin but on Savior who heals!
- Let this be a lesson on how NOT to receive the blessings of Christ
- Let us be more like the Samaritan woman at well
- Hope of Gospel
 - Christ came to redeem unworthy sinners Jn12:47
 - Christ, in love, redeems us while unworthy Rom 5:6-8
 - How we are then to live: 1 Pet 3:15-17