

John #25

5:1-9

06.17.07

"Arise, Take Up Your Pallet, and Walk"

Intro: This Lord's Day, as we enter into the study of the 5th chapter of the Gospel of John, we come to read of yet another miracle worked by Christ which, as the Beloved expressed, is here "written that you may _____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may _____ in His name" (John 20:31).

A. Additionally, in entering into this fifth chapter we read of the serious and growing _____ challenging Christ as to His work, authority and Deity. And here, as read by our brother, we heard that they were "seeking to _____, not only because they said He was breaking the Sabbath, but also He was calling God His own Father, making Himself equal with God."

I. By the will of the Heavenly Father _____ to Jerusalem for the occasion of a feast.

A. While in Jerusalem _____ to the pool of Bethesda which had five porches.

1. Multitudes of very _____ people gathered at the pool of Bethesda _____ to be miraculously healed.

2. Of the multitudes at the pool, there was "a certain man" who had been ____ for "_____ - _____ years".

B. With _____ insight, Jesus approached the ill man and taking the _____ He said to him "Do you wish to get well?"

1. At the Lord's question the man acknowledged his _____ and _____ his own helplessness.

a. The man answered saying that he did indeed wish to get well, saying, in so many words, "It is not for lack of want that I remain ill, but because I am _____ and cannot get into the water by myself! It is not for lack of will that I have not become well, but _____."

C. Jesus gave the _____ that the man should "Get up, pick up his pallet, and walk." Here Jesus speaks not with the _____ of God, but as God!

1. Demonstrating His _____ through His creative and authoritative _____, the Jesus of Nazareth said to the man who had been ill for 38 years, "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." Remember church! "... these have been written that you may _____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may _____ in His name" (Jo, 20:31)!

2. The miracle and the man's response where instantaneous. For 38 years the man had wished to get well, but could not. Here, in an instant, the Jesus spoke the Word and it was done. The man's insurmountable inability vanished the very moment Christ _____ him the divine _____.

3. What kind of man is this who can command a man who had already been ill for 38 years, who could not even so much as hurry into a pool, to "Arise, take up your pallet, and walk"; and at such a command that the sick man would immediately become well, and take up his pallet and begin to walk? Surely this

_____ is the Son of God, God very God Himself, the Lamb of God who _____ the _____ of the world!!!

II. Let us now give further consideration understanding what this story means to us that we might _____ all the more.

A. Here in this story we see that the water, as symbolic of the _____, _____ for the sick are unable to attain it, but it was by the grace of God that the sick man was healed, not by works - his getting into the pool - but by _____ as the free _____ of God!

1. Let us shout for joy, for no longer are we under the curse of the law, but we who are saved are saved by _____ through faith, and that is not of ourselves but it is the free _____ of God, not as a result of any work that we have done! We are His workmanship! To _____ be all the _____!

B. The Lord's good will came to this man as _____ favor, otherwise known as amazing _____!

1. Beloved, let him who has ears to hear, hear what the Spirit say to the church, John 5:21, "For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the _____ also gives life to whom He wishes." Christ's _____ of this man was sovereign act - period!

2. Why is this important? What purpose does knowing this serve? That we would understand the sole _____ - the sole cause and effect of our salvation, which is the sovereign grace of _____. And that, that God alone would be _____, lest any man should boast!

3. Of this John MacArthur writes, "This incident perfectly illustrates sovereign grace in action (cf. v. 21). Out of all the sick people at the pool, Jesus chose to heal this man. There was nothing about him that made him more deserving than the others, nor did he seek out Jesus; _____ approached him. the Lord did not choose him because he foresaw that he had faith to believe for a healing; he never did express belief that Jesus could heal him. So it is in salvation. Out of the spiritually dead multitude of Adam's fallen race, chose and redeemed His elect - not because of anything they did to deserve it, or because of foreseen faith, but because of His sovereign choice (6:37; Rom. 8:29-30; 9:16; Eph. 1:4-5; 2:4-5; 2 Thess.2:13; Titus 3:5). Even _____ to believe was a sovereign _____ (Eph. 2:8-9)."

Closing: And so, dear friends, I would ask you, "_____ to be free from your sin? Do you wish to be healed from the sin that ravages your life; that torments you day and night; that you wish to be free from but you have not found one who can assist you, and you've found that you have an inability and cannot free yourself? Christ Jesus of whom we have read today - He is the answer! _____ in Him! Look to Jesus and _____! "For these have been written that you may believe that is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name."