

## John 5

### 1. The Setting

After an extended stay in Galilee, Jesus returns to Jerusalem, in order to attend an unspecified Jewish festival. As in the case of Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman and the royal official, John shows Jesus concern for a particular individual, in the present instance a man who has been an invalid for **38** years.

The invalid apparently held to a popular belief that that an angel came down and stirred the pool, and when this happened, the first person and only the first person that step into the pool would be miraculously healed.

The description of the angel, etc. (Verse 4), is omitted from some ancient manuscripts and some modern translations because there is some doubt that it was found in the original text (see the ASV, NKJV footnote, etc.)

### 2. The man at the Pool

- At the Pool lay a multitude of invalids, Jesus heal only 1.
- Jesus disappeared/ move away very quickly after the healing so much so that the person didn't even know who healed him.
- Jesus sought the healed man out later to tell him the point his healing was about.
- According to Jewish tradition was a code that prohibited the carrying of an object "from one domain into another"
- Jewish leader's primary objection is not against the healing itself but that the breached of Sabbath regulations.

### 3. The claims of Jesus

- The Son doesn't—indeed the Son can't—go his own way but stays in perfect step with the Father; The Father doesn't go his own way but acts in perfect step with the Son.
- The Father and the Son are equal so that when one is acting the other is acting—with the two implications that if we don't honor the Son, we don't honor the Father, and if we believe on the Father through the word of Jesus, we have already passed from death to life and are on the other side of condemnation.

Quote from John Piper on what Jesus is saying in chapter 5

## Repent and Rejoice

"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!" (Romans 11:33). Whether you see it or not, here is my response to your accusations about my Sabbath-breaking:

I and the Father are one. We created the world and the Sabbath. Since sin and sickness entered the world, my Father has been working, and I have been working, to restore Sabbath joy and wholeness and rest to the world. That is what I am doing here and now in the months that remain to me on the earth. I will deliver the decisive victory at the cross. And I will come again to complete my redeeming work. And in that kingdom, there will be no sickness, and there will be no sin. Therefore, repent, and rejoice that a man has been saved from both on the Sabbath. Amen.

❖ Notes: None of the physical miracles of Jesus was an end in itself. They all point to something more about him and about the kingdom of God and about the spiritual and moral transformations that he is working.

1. What did Jesus mean when he warned the invalid whom he had just healed that he should sin no more or a worse fate would befall him? Is there a relationship between sin and disease? Look at John 9:3; 11:4; Luke 13:1-5. 1 Cor 11 :30 ; 2 Cor 4:16-18 , How should a Christian react when he encounters illness.
2. The man didn't come to Jesus and ask to be healed. Jesus went to him, understood his brokenness and healed him completely. How does a Christian deal with the sick and disabled in the church? Share how you have each ministered to the sick or how you have been ministered to.
3. What did Jesus mean when he warned the invalid whom he had just healed that he should sin no more or a worse fate would befall him? Is there a relationship between sin and disease? Look at John 9:3; 11:4; Luke 13:1-5. 1 Cor 11 :30 ; 2 Cor 4:16-18 , How should a Christian react when he encounters illness.
4. The Jews got upset with Jesus for healing the invalid on the Sabbath as they were caught up with legalism. What is legalism and how does it affect us in the church even today.
5. Can you share specific instance of how you encountered legalism in church? What was Jesus defence in this instance and what did he mean?
6. Why did the Jews decide to kill Jesus at this point?
7. In what way is Jesus equal with God and of what relevance is that to us and to the purposes of John who writes this gospel?
8. How come believing in Jesus will bring eternal life? How can Jesus bring the dead to life ?In vv 25

9. Does John 5:29 mean that people will be judged on their works?
10. What did you learn about Jesus today- what does Jesus reveal and declare about himself? How does this impact your life/ ministry/ evangelism?

As you close in prayer, remember that Jesus doesn't ask, "Do you want to get well?" the way a friend, counsellor, or even brilliant surgeon does. He asks as Creator, Savior, Son of God for whom **nothing** is impossible and **no one** is insignificant. And He asks us not because we deserve it, but because He loves us—totally and completely.