

## jenaministries – Part 6 Bible Miracles

### 6. Jesus Healed Ten with Leprosy but Only One Thanked Him

There were ten men with a very contagious skin disease, Leprosy. Nine of them were Jews and one a gentile (or foreigner). When they saw Jesus coming, they yelled from a distance for Jesus to have pity on them. They were begging Jesus to heal them from this horrible disease. They had to yell from a distance because what they had was very contagious and they were separated from the public.

Jesus responded by telling them to go show themselves to the priest (**Scriptures 1 – Jesus Heals Ten Men With Leprosy Luke 17:11-19**).

Many years earlier, God gave Moses specific instructions for the Jewish people who were healed from a skin disease (**Scriptures 2 – Cleansing From Defiling Skin Diseases Leviticus 14:1-9**). They had to go to the priest, do a bunch of ceremonial offerings, bath in water, wash their clothes, shave their hair and be in a separate tent for a time. All this makes sense. If you had a contagious disease, you need to make sure you are not contagious anymore before you go back into public.

So Jesus telling them to show themselves to the priest was within the Jewish law. On their way to the priest, all ten of the men were healed. The nine Jewish men continued to the priest as Jesus (and the Jewish law) instructed. But the foreigner went back to thank Jesus, throwing himself at Jesus' feet.

Some could consider Jesus' response to be surprising or confusing (as he often was). Jesus actually was a bit angry that the other nine men did not come back to thank him as well. I would assume that the Jewish laws were very important to the Jews and it was important to go to the priest and be declared clean first. After all, it was what Jesus told them to do and they were just being obedient. Hopefully, they were planning on thanking him and bringing him gifts after.

What we can get out of this is that it is more important to give God credit and thanksgiving than it is to do what is ceremonially or traditionally correct. We are to recognize that everything comes from him and give him all the glory for everything we have received. And we are to put God first, before anything or anyone.

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#### Scriptures 1. Jesus Heals Ten Men With Leprosy

##### Luke 17:11-19

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."

#### Scriptures 2. Cleansing From Defiling Skin Diseases

##### Leviticus 14:1-9

The LORD said to Moses, "These are the regulations for any diseased person at the time of their ceremonial cleansing, when they are brought to the priest: The priest is to go outside the camp and examine them. If they have been healed of their defiling skin disease, the priest shall order that two live clean birds and some cedar wood, scarlet yarn and hyssop be brought for the person to be cleansed. Then the priest shall order that one of the birds be killed over fresh water in a clay pot. He is then to take the live bird and dip it, together with the cedar wood, the scarlet yarn and the hyssop, into the blood of the bird that was killed over the fresh water. Seven times he shall sprinkle the one to be cleansed of the defiling disease, and then pronounce them clean. After that, he is to release the live bird in the open fields.

**"The person to be cleansed must wash their clothes, shave off all their hair and bathe with water; then they will be ceremonially clean. After this they may come into the camp, but they must stay outside their tent for seven days. On the seventh day they must shave off all their hair; they must shave their head, their beard, their eyebrows and the rest of their hair. They must wash their clothes and bathe themselves with water, and they will be clean."**