

Much of this tract is commentary - don't take it as Gospel. It is here to encourage meditation and study. Use your gift of discernment, to find the truth.



Glen Miller



(Leviticus 14:1-9)
1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
2 This shall be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought unto the priest:
3 And the priest shall go forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and, behold, if the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper;
4 Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:
5 And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water:
6 As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water:
7 And he shall sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose into the open field.
8 And he that is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, and shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he may be clean: and after that he shall come into the camp, and shall tarry abroad out of his tent seven days.



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Gospel Mk 1:40-45

Doing the right thing
(Mark 1:40-45)



And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

41 And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.
42 And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.
43 And he straitly charged him, and forthwith sent him away;
44 And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.
45 But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

Doing the right thing

Jesus was in Capernaum. He left for the desert, but returned shortly (see the following verses). This was another of many healings (casting out devils) in the villages of Galilee. Why did Jesus tell the leper not to speak about it to *any man*, yet commanded him to go to the synagogue and testify to a *priest*.

All Syrian's (Galileans, Judeans, Samaritans) love to tell secrets. Jesus understood that some of the people who heard the news, would not appreciate His works, nor His ideas, yet He had **to heal the man**, as God had placed him in His path. Jesus here, as always, **supports the Law of Moses**, and yet His reminder to this Jew, that he must go to the Priest and make an offering ^A, would obviously spread the news to the very people who were most against Him.

Soon He had to leave town because some of them were perhaps becoming violent towards Him. In the desert he was followed by both friends and enemies (*from every quarter*).

Notice the manner of the healing: the leper knelt, Jesus put a hand on him, and spoke the commandment to the unclean spirit to depart. In these times, disease of all kinds were attributed to unclean spirits. In Jewish teachings disease was thought to be a punishment.

In the Talmud, it was thought that punishment by disease in this life, paid for many sins, and that upon death there would be no recompense needed. Anyone who died righteously, paid for all sins by the ultimate suffering, his own death.

Do the right thing.
Obey God's Law, and Moses Law
even if it means personal danger.

^A See Leviticus 14:1-32

(cont.)
9 But it shall be on the seventh day, that he shall shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he shall shave off: and he shall wash his clothes, also he shall wash his flesh in water, and he shall be clean.