

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Thirty-Three

Healing a Man with Dropsy

Text: Luke 14:1-6

Introduction:

1. After arriving in Judah and confronting the religious leaders of His day, Jesus was asked by the Jews if He was the Messiah (John 10:22-24).
2. Following His reply, the Jews sought to take and stone Him (John 10:25-39).
3. Thus, Jesus and His disciples traveled across the Jordan River into the land of Perea (John 10:40-42).
4. In Perea, Jesus taught in the towns and villages and wept over Jerusalem (Luke 13:22-35).
5. Again, in confrontation with the Pharisees, Jesus healed on the Sabbath Day.

I. The Miracle

- A. Jesus healed a man who had dropsy.
 1. Dropsy is a disease that causes the accumulation of water in different parts of the body.
 2. It is a condition that is quite uncomfortable and often very painful.
- B. The details of the performance of this miracle are important.
 1. Jesus was in the house of one of the chief Pharisees to partake of a meal.
 - a. This man was a chief Pharisee, meaning that he was a member of the Sanhedrin.
 - b. Apparently, Jesus had been invited to dine with him (cf. 14:12).
 2. It was the Sabbath Day.
 3. Jesus was being watched closely by the Pharisees.
 - a. This word means “to observe carefully, to watch closely.”
 - b. However, it also carries with it the idea of “watching from the side or on the sly.”
 - c. In other words, they watched for some way to entrap Jesus.
- C. By this miracle, Jesus challenged their false beliefs and hypocrisy concerning the Sabbath.
 1. They taught that it was permissible to help or save a common animal on the Sabbath Day.
 2. Yet, they wanted to accuse Jesus of sin for helping a man on the Sabbath.
- D. After the miracle and simple question of Jesus, they were unable to dispute with Him.
- E. Thus, He began to teach important lessons about who would be allowed to feast in the Kingdom of the Messiah (Luke 14:7-24).

II. The Manifestation

- A. Jesus proved His deity, power and authority.
- B. He also proved that His doctrine is true – and the Pharisees taught error.

III. The Message

- A. Just like Jesus, Christians are being watched (cf. 2 Corinthians 3:2).
- B. Yet, Jesus would not allow His good works to be hindered by enemies and critics.