



Springcreek
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THE TEN LEPERS

THE STORYTELLER:

The Most Misunderstood Short Stories of Jesus – Part 2

Pastor Keith Stewart

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"...we forget that Scripture is a foreign land and that reading the Bible is a cross-cultural experience. To open the Word of God is to step into a strange world where things are very unlike our own. Most of us don't speak the languages. We don't know the geography or the customs or what behaviors are considered rude or polite." – E. Randolph Richards & Brandon J. O'Brien

1. UNTOUCHABLES

As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. Luke 17.12a

"[Lepers were treated] as if they were, in effect, dead men." – Flavius Josephus



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2. UNDESERVING

They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" Luke 17.12b-13

When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. Luke 17.14

When he saw them... Luke 17.14a

Scenery, Machinery or Human Beings

3. UNEXPECTED

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. Luke 17.15-16



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4. UNGRATEFUL

Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?" Luke 17.17

"Troubles nearly always make us look to God; His blessings are apt to make us look elsewhere." - Oswald Chambers, *My Utmost for His Highest*

In life, you can focus on what's lost or what's left.

"Sure, Kings had castles—but did they have DSL?" Listen to this one quote...

"We live better than kings. ...Grab a crown. Most of us are far healthier, far more comfortable and have far more opportunities and diversions available to us than 99% of all the monarchs, emperors, maharajas and other potentates who've ever lived. We live longer, eat better and travel farther than the richest and most blessed people in virtually every other generation in every land in history. - Eric Zorn, *Chicago Tribune* (11.25.04)

"Here are the two best prayers I know: 'Help me, help me, help me' and 'Thank you, thank you, thank you.'" – Anne Lamott, *Traveling Mercies*



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This is the ONLY TIME in the entire New Testament where anyone ever thanks Jesus for a miracle.

He was healed, cleansed and saved.

One of them, when he saw he was healed... Luke 17.15a

Were not all ten cleansed? Luke 17.17b

Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." Luke 17.19

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. Romans 10.9-10

The purpose of miracles is not to say, "look what can He do" BUT "see who He is."