THE TOUCH OF JESUS

I. THE LEPER

THE TOUCH

**Mark 1:41** Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, “I will; be clean.”

This is the story of a leper, one of the many hopeless people healed by the touch of Jesus’ hand. This lonely man wondered if he would ever have a normal life again. It seems like an eternity since he had enjoyed human love. To play with his kids, to hold his wife, or just hang out with his friends in his village, those days were gone a long time ago. Lepers were unclean, they were outcastes from their world. No one ever came back from the leper colonies. Leprosy was for all intents and purposes a death sentence.

The first ray of hope came the day this man heard about Jesus. It was rumored that miraculous power was working through Him. Maybe, just maybe, there was some hope for tis leper. When Jesus was standing right in front of him he can hardly believe his eyes. The next thing he knew, Jesus touched him. There was love, acceptance, kindness, and miracle power in the touch of our Lord. This leper was getting a brand new life. Check out Maclaren’s thoughts on this story.

“Ever since his disease declared itself no human being had touched him. If he had a wife he had been separated from her; if he had children their lips had never kissed his, nor their little hands found their way into his hard palm. Alone he had been walking with the plague-cloth over his face, and the cry ‘Unclean!’ on his lips, lest any man should come near him. Skulking in his isolation, how he must have hungered for the touch of a hand! Every Jew was forbidden to approach him but the priest, who, if he were cured, might pass his hand over the place and pronounce him clean. And here comes a Man who breaks down all the restrictions, stretches a frank hand out across the walls of separation, and touches him. What a reviving assurance of
love must have come to the man as Christ grasped his hand, even if he saw in Him only a stranger who was not afraid of him and did not turn from him!”

Maybe you feel rejected, hurt, and all alone. Jesus is coming near you today. Call out to him like the leper did. His touch will surely come.

1. THE NEED TO BE LOVED - CHRIST WAS MOVED WITH COMPASSION

2. THE LEPER NEEDED ACCEPTANCE AND FORGIVENESS
   - CHRIST DEFEATED SICKNESS THOROUGHLY AT THE CROSS -
   HE IS THE GRACE OF GOD

JESUS WOULD BE CONSIDERED CEREMONIALLY UNCLEAN FROM THIS TOUCH - HE BECAME SIN FOR US

SPURGEON

This unclean person had broken through the regulations of the ceremonial law and pressed into the house, but Jesus so far from chiding him broke through the law himself in order to meet him. He made an interchange with the leper, for while he cleansed him, he contracted by that touch a Levitical defilement. Even so Jesus Christ was made sin for us, although in himself he knew no sin, that we might be made the righteousness of God in him. O that poor sinners would go to Jesus, believing in the power of his blessed substitutionary work, and they would soon learn the power of his gracious touch. That hand which multiplied the loaves, which saved sinking Peter, which upholds afflicted saints, which crowns believers, that same hand will touch every seeking sinner, and in a moment make him clean. The love of Jesus is the source of salvation. He loves, he looks, he touches us, WE LIVE.

3. THE LEPER NEEDED HEALING FROM HIS DISEASE
II. JAIRUS’ DAUGHTER

Mark 5:41 Then He took the child by the hand, and said to her, “Talitha, cumi,” which is translated, “Little girl, I say to you, arise.”

1. TOUCH OF ANSWERED PRAYER

2. TOUCH GREATER THAN DEATH

III. THE DEMONIZED BOY

Mark 9:26 Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.”
Mark 9:27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

1. THE TOUCH THAT CALMED EVERY FEAR

2. THE TOUCH THAT BROKE DEMONIC BONDAGES
IV. THE LITTLE CHILDREN

Luke 18:15-17 ¶ Then they also brought infants to Him that He might touch them; but when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. But Jesus called them to Him and said, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”

1. THE TOUCH OF DESTINY - IGNASIUS - BISHOP OF ANTIOCK

2. CHILDLIKE FAITH- TOTAL DEPENDENCY LIKE A CHILD

V. PETER’ MOTHER IN LAW

Mark 1:30 But Simon’s wife’s mother lay sick with a fever, and they told Him about her at once.
Mark 1:31 So He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and immediately the fever left her. And she served them.

1. IN OUR OLD AGE

2. IN OUR AFFLICTIONS

3. THE TOUCH OF RENEWED STRENGTH