



## LORD, I NEED A MIRACLE WHEN THERE IS NO MORE ABILITY IN LIFE!

Lesson 3 • John 5:1-18

### BACKGROUND TO THE THIRD SIGN (vv. 1-5)

- **When?** *“After these things, there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.” (5:1; 2:23-25; 4:43-45)*
- **Where?** *“Now there was in Jerusalem by the sheep gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew Bethesda, having five porticoes.” (5:2)*
- **Who?** *“In these lay a multitude of those who were sick, blind, lame, and withered. A man was there who had been thirty-eight years in his sickness.” (5:3, 5)*
- **What happened to verse 4?** *“[waiting for the moving of the waters; for an angel of the Lord went down and at certain seasons into the pool and stirred up the water; whoever then first, after the stirring up of the water, stepped in was made well from the whatever disease with which he was afflicted.]” (5:4)*

### WE NEED A MIRACLE WHEN WE LACK THE ABILITY TO SAVE OURSELVES OR LIVE HOLY BEFORE GOD!

## 1. THE QUESTION: “DO YOU WANT TO BE MADE WELL?” (vv. 6-7)

#### WHY DID JESUS PICK THIS DISABLED MAN AND ASK HIM THIS QUESTION?

- Jesus was not in the business of healing people but in bringing **HOLINESS** to all people!
- Jesus wanted the man to think about his greater need and the greater miracle of being healed of the disability of his **DEPRAVITY—SIN!**

#### WHY DIDN'T THE DISABLED MAN ANSWER THE QUESTION OR ASK JESUS TO CARRY HIM TO THE POOL?

- The disabled man was not yet ready to take **RESPONSIBILITY** for his greater disability of not living for God!
  - 1) The disabled man **never answered** the question in the affirmative!
  - 2) The disabled man **never asked** Jesus to carry Him to the pool!

## 2. THE COMMAND: “GET UP, PICK UP YOUR PALLET AND WALK!” (vv. 8-9)

### 3. THE CONFLICT: "NOW IT WAS THE SABBATH ON THAT DAY." (vv. 9-13)

*The Jewish leaders not only lack **SAVING FAITH**, they also lack **SIGN FAITH!**  
They are all about **KEEPING RULES** rather than **SEEKING** and **FINDING** their **MESSIAH!***

### 4. THE WARNING: "BEHOLD, YOU HAVE BECOME WELL; DO NOT SIN ANYMORE, SO THAT NOTHING WORSE MAY BEFALL YOU!" (vv. 14-16)

- **WHAT** is Jesus doing here? (v. 14)

*"I have healed you to make you holy!"*

*"Turn from your sin to me as your Sovereign Savior!"*

- **HOW** does the healed man respond? (v. 15)

- **HOW** do the Jewish leaders respond? (v. 16)

### 5. THE SIGNIFICANCE: "MY FATHER IS WORKING UNTIL NOW, AND I MYSELF AM WORKING!" (vv. 17-18)

**WHAT WAS JESUS CLAIMING ABOUT HIMSELF AND HIS MINISTRY?**

- Jesus was doing the **WORK OF GOD**—*His Father*—in His message, His ministry, and His miracles!
- Jesus was doing the work of God because **HE WAS GOD!**

### **SO HOW DO WE OVERCOME THE GREATEST DISABILITY OF ALL— THE INABILITY TO LIVE HOLY BEFORE GOD DUE TO OUR SIN?**

*Seek to Be Made Holy by Saving Faith in Jesus as the Sovereign Savior and Then Start Sinning Less and Obeying More!*

- Let Jesus convict you of your own spiritual **DISABILITY** to live a life pleasing to God.

**THE DEEPER NEED WE NEED TO BE CONVICTED OF BY JESUS:**

- 1) The **primary source** of our **spiritual disability** is our own sinful **depravity** that no one can heal but Jesus!
- 2) The **paralyzing force** of our **spiritual disability** is our own **inability** to save ourselves or live holy before God!
- 3) The **persistent course** of our **spiritual disability** is that our **eternity** hangs in the balance!

- Let Jesus do for you what you are **UNABLE** to do for yourself: *Place saving faith in Him and His work for you in His death, burial, and resurrection from the dead!*
- Give Jesus the honor He deserves by **DOING** what He has saved you to do: *Rise up and get to work for His coming kingdom!*