

Expect A Miracle Part 2

Jesus Can Cure Any Disability

Matthew 15:29-31

Memory Verses: Matthew 15:31

MANUSCRIPT

Introduction (Me, We, & the Struggle)

Last week we saw that Jesus undoubtably healed people from all manner of diseases from leprosy to common colds. It was a clear picture for us to recognize that we have a God we can place our absolute trust in. Though doctors may heal and medicines may recover, our first response is to trust in Jesus to do what only he can do! My hope is in the healing power of Christ. So my hope in the midst of heart disease is Jesus! My hope in the midst of kidney failure is Jesus. My hope in the midst of Cancer is Jesus!

This week we want to continue where we left off last week. **Jesus not only can heal any disease, but Jesus can also cure any disability! And though disease and disability are similar, and though they can be directly connected at times, they are indeed different types of physical ailments. Where disease often comes from an infection we've been exposed to, disability often comes from an accident we've been involved with or gene defects we've inherited. And where diseases can often be healed or cured through surgery or medication, disabilities are, for the most part, seen as permanent.**

Look with me at **Matthew 15:29-31**. What an incredible savior we have. Even though it's most definitely a miracle when Jesus cures someone of stage 4 cancer, it is an absolutely undeniable miracle when Jesus heals a paralytic man who's never walked, or a blind man who's never seen! It's almost as if Jesus keeps upping the anti. Much like when Pharaoh's magicians copied Moses's staff turning into a serpent, the water turning to blood, and the frogs, today's doctor's can heal many of our diseases. But, just like the magicians couldn't match Moses turning the sand to gnats, it is beyond our modern day science to heal many of these disabilities! But, Jesus can! Today I want to turn our attention to the undeniable power of Christ to cure any disability. But I also want us to examine why he allows those disabilities in the first place. If Jesus is powerful enough to cure the lame he is most certainly powerful enough to prevent it all together. Surely he has a plan for our disabilities. So, not only does He have the ability to cure all disabilities, but I believe...

Jesus allows disabilities to remind us that we are broken in our sin, and only He can make us whole again.

Teaching (Expand on the Problem, God)

The first miracle we see here today is that... **Jesus Makes The Lame Walk Again**. Praise God for the ability to walk and move. It is often a blessing that we take for granted. Could you imagine what it must be like for people who do not have that ability? It's not only that you can't move, but you can't work, you can't supply for yourself your needs, you have no real freedom. You are, to varying degrees, completely dependent on the kindness of others to survive. In a way it shows us all, even those of us who can walk, that regardless of our physical state, **we are all dependent on Jesus to supply every one of our needs**.

We see this in a couple stories. The first is that of the Centurion's Servant, or son, depending on which account we look at. We will be looking at the account from Matthew's perspective in **Matthew 8:5-13**, but you can also find it in **Luke 7:1-10**, and **John 4:46-54**. It is interesting that this is the first miracle we will be looking at today because according to Matthew the servant was paralyzed, but according to Luke and John the servant, who was also his son, had a fever and was about to die of a sickness. This account links both Jesus' ability to heal disease and cure disabilities. He does both here.

In our next miracle we see a paralytic man being brought to Jesus by his friends, but the crowds are so thick they can't get to him... so what do they do? I will read the account from **Mark 2:1-12**, but you can also find it in **Matthew 9:1-8**, and **Luke 5:17-26**. Notice, as Jesus often does, he doesn't just heal the man physically but he heals him spiritually! The focus from the Pharisees is not on the physical healing as much as it is the spiritual healing! Who can do these things but God. Let's watch this **clip**. I love that Jesus makes it clear that he heals physically to prove that he can also heal spiritually!

The last example of a paralytic that Jesus heals can only be found in **John 5:1-17**. Here Jesus heals a man who had placed all of his hope in the powers of a mystical pool to heal him. Jesus shows up and reveals to him that the only power he truly need is in Him. Let's watch the **clip**. I find it very amusing that Jesus often does these miracles on the Sabbath just to show the Pharisees that their religion is insignificant compared to the power of God. Of course, it makes them very angry. Instead of worshipping Jesus as God it gives them cause to kill him. In that aspect the dichotomy is clear. Some are broken by physical disability and some are broken by their own sin. **Jesus allows disabilities to remind us that we are broken in our sin, and only He can make us whole again.**

But Jesus doesn't just make the lame to walk... **Jesus Makes The Crippled Straight Again**. Look with me in **Luke 13:10-17** where we see the miracle of the bent over woman. For 18 years she could not straighten out her back, and so on the Sabbath, Jesus heals her. Again the Pharisees are

in an uproar. They hate the fact that Jesus heals on the Sabbath because they hate that God is much more than rules, regulations, festivals, and rituals. They want a stationary God who does what they want, rather than a God who can step out of their box and do the miraculous. We see this even more clearly in the miracle of the man with the withered hand. We will look at this account in [Luke 6:6-11](#), but we can also find it in [Matthew 12:9-13](#), and [Mark 3:1-6](#). Watch this [clip](#). What's wrong with Jesus? To some people, everything. Let's be honest, like the pharisees **some people would rather you be left disabled than to be a walking representation of the miracles of Christ**. That's why it's all the more important to realize that... **Jesus allows disabilities to remind us that we are broken in our sin, and only He can make us whole again.**

But wait... there is more. Not only does Jesus make the lame walk and the crippled straight; **Jesus Makes The Deaf Hear Again**. Look with me at [Mark 7:31-37](#). Here Jesus actually performs two miracles; he heals his deafness and his muteness. He can now hear and speak, something he was completely unable to do before. Put yourself in his place. Communication for him was almost impossible. You could see how this could make life for him very complicated. But then Jesus comes along and does the unimaginable. He opens his ears and his mouth. This isn't the only time Jesus heals the deaf and mute. Next week we will see Jesus heal a mute and deaf man who was afflicted with a demon. This shows us that sometimes we are disabled by the natural and sometimes we are disabled by the supernatural. Jesus is in control of both! We also should notice that before Jesus heals this man he looks up. I wonder if when Jesus looked up and sighed if he wasn't thinking of [Isaiah 35:5](#). I also wonder if the crowd didn't think of this verse when they saw what he had done. Jesus did miracles to show that he was who we had been waiting for. **For those of us still waiting, be assured, Jesus is the one we've been waiting for. Jesus allows disabilities to remind us that we are broken in our sin, and only He can make us whole again.**

But there is still more. Not only does Jesus make the lame walk, the crippled straight, and the deaf hear; **Jesus Makes The Blind See Again**. I wish that we had more clips but alas the Chosen is only on season 3. I'm sure that in the coming seasons we will see all the miracles. For now, you'll just have to imagine these in your head. In [Mark 8:22-26](#), and [John 9](#) we see the story of the blind man at Bethsaida. I absolutely love how in some of these miracles Jesus spits and touches their ears or eyes. You may think it's gross, but I see it as Jesus sharing his living water with us. Jesus can spit on me any day.

Lastly we see the story of the two blind men on the road; one of

which we know as Bartimaeus. We will read the account in [Matthew 20:29-34](#), but it can also be found in [Mark 10:46-52](#), and [Luke 18:35-43](#). As with the story of the bleeding woman last week, again we can see that there was a crowd issue to be overcome. The men were shouting but the crowd told them to shut up. Often when we cry out for God the world will tell us to be quiet. They will tell us we look like idiots. But who cares. Wouldn't you be willing to trade blindness for persecution? **Don't let the naysayers of this world keep you from your miracle!** Thank Jesus for sight. How amazing is the gift of sight? Without it we are in physical darkness. What a reminder that without Jesus we are in spiritual darkness. **Jesus allows disabilities to remind us that we are broken in our sin, and only He can make us whole again.**

Application

The application is simple this morning. I don't know if you have a disability. I'm sure all of us do to some degree. Jesus may heal it and he may not. But just because Jesus doesn't heal it doesn't mean it doesn't serve a purpose. Just as Peter said in his disability... his grace is sufficient, for when I am weak he is strong. **Jesus allows disabilities to remind us that we are broken in our sin, and only He can make us whole again.** So are you allowing Jesus to be glorified in your disability? Have you allowed Jesus to heal your spiritual brokenness? Are you trusting in him for a miracle?

Conclusion

You remember the man who Jesus spit in his eye? John tells us that Jesus actually made mud with his spit and put that in his eyes. Regardless, John gives us the end of the story. Look at [John 9:34-41](#). A couple of things here to end on. Jesus comes back for the man to make sure that not only is he physically healed, but to make sure he is saved! We see this in many of Jesus' miracles if not all of them. But then he says something else referring to the Pharisees. He says, I came to make the blind see and the seeing blind. The point is... if you don't believe in Jesus you are blind. I pray today if you haven't put all of your trust in Him you would. That's what the miracles are for!

After Jesus healed the man with the withered hand, Matthew expounds as well... look what he says in [Matthew 12:13-21](#). Jesus didn't come to quarrel, or fight. He came to bring justice, victory, and hope to the Gentiles. Why did Jesus heal the disabled? To point us to him! **Jesus allows disabilities to remind us that we are broken in our sin, and only He can make us whole again.**