

CONVERSATIONS WITH JESUS

PART FIVE: A TERSE MOMENT

John 5:1-14 ♦ Pastor Dean Lancaster ♦ February 4, 2024

Jesus' approach here was one of several instances where He was incisive, direct and without explanation or prefacing remarks.

This conversation is remarkable, not just for the healing miracle or because Jesus spoke in brief, succinct sentences, (five, in total). But about terrible consequences of sin and the grace available to every person.

A Sick Man

John 5:2–6 *Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades. Here a great number of disabled people used to lie—the blind, the lame, the paralyzed. One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?”*

We are disabled, weak and frail before a Holy God.

We are desperate, trying hopelessly to cure ourselves.

We are surrounded by others who are seeking healing for themselves, not for us.

A Sympathetic Messiah

John 5:7–9 *“Sir,” the invalid replied, “I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked. The day on which this took place was a Sabbath,*

Jesus chose each of us.

Jesus cared for us when we were totally sinful.

Jesus came to us, He did not wait for us to come.

A Succinct Miracle

John 5:14–15 *Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, “See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.” The man went away and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.*

The “something worse” is the rejection of Jesus by a sinner, which sends them to Hell.

The most significant healing, any of us can receive from Jesus is the salvation of our souls.

His order to us is to have the child-like faith to follow His commands.

Jesus will lift you out of the affliction of your sins if you will hear and obey Him when He calls you.

Take this with you...

Three lessons on which to focus from this conversation:

Sin renders every person helpless and hopeless; only a miracle can save us.

Jesus is asking every person if they want to be saved, no matter how desperate their situation.

It is possible to experience a physical miracle but choose not to become a follower of Jesus.