

Series: Making Much of the Master

**RISE, TAKE UP THY BED  
AND WALK  
JOHN 5**

Text: John 5:8

*John 5:8*

*8 Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.*

Introduction:

It was the time of the Jews annual Feast of the Passover, one of the three great religious feasts celebrated during the year.

The Lord was in Jerusalem to observe the feast.

But on this particular day, instead of finding the Lord in the Temple, we find Him instead in the area known as Bethesda.

There was a pool of water in this area called the Pool of Bethesda.

It's here that we see Jesus ministering to another individual.

Note:

# 1. THE DEPRESSING SCENE

## **John 5:1-4**

*<sup>1</sup>After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. <sup>3</sup>In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. <sup>4</sup>For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.*

There were five porches around this pool. We can imagine the scores of sick people on cots and mats. In their desperation to be healed, they had been brought here by friends or relatives. This was their last hope.

Note not only The Depressing Scene but also:

## 2. THE DESTITUTE MAN

### **John 5:5-7**

*<sup>5</sup>And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole? <sup>7</sup>The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.*

- A. He had been in this condition for 38 years.
- B. He had no one to place him in the pool.

Can you imagine this man?

It interesting to note how the Lord dealt with this man:

- The Pity Showed to this Man

The Lord knew he had been there a long time.

Sometimes in our problems we wonder if God is aware of our situation.

This text lets us be know for certain that He knows our every pain and problem and does indeed care about them.

Notice not only the Pity showed to this Man but also:

The Prodding of this Man

Before the Lord healed this man He asks him:

“Wilt thou be made whole?”

You say that seems like a dumb question but in reality there are many who love to wallow in their misery. They enjoy the attention.

Note this man’s answer: “Sir I have no man , when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool.”

The problem wasn’t a lack of desire but rather a lack of deliverer.

Note not only The Depressing Scene, and The Destitute Man but also:

### **3. THE DELIVERING SAVIOR**

***John 5:8-9***

*<sup>8</sup> Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. <sup>9</sup> And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.*

Jesus instructed this man to do three things.

Note:

### A. Rise

Sometimes when the Lord would take an individual who He was helping or healing by the hand and lift them to their feet. But in this case the Lord tells this man to rise on his own.

### B. Take up thy bed

He would not need this bed any longer.

### C. Walk

Jesus tells him to walk. Walk away from this place a scene of hopelessness.

Note this man's obedience

- It was fast
- It was full

Note not only the Depressing Scene, the Destitute Man, and the Delivering Saviour, but lastly:

## 4. THE DISAPPROVING JEWS

### **John 5:10-18**

<sup>10</sup> *The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed. <sup>11</sup> He answered them, He that made me whole, the same said unto me, Take up thy bed, and walk. <sup>12</sup> Then asked they him, What man is that which said unto thee, Take up thy bed, and walk? <sup>13</sup> And he that was healed wist not who it was: for Jesus had conveyed himself away, a multitude being in that place. <sup>14</sup> Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee. <sup>15</sup> The man departed, and told the Jews that it was Jesus, which had made him whole. <sup>16</sup> And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day. <sup>17</sup> But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work. <sup>18</sup> Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.*

- They Had Perverted the Law

They forgot that it was lawful to do acts of mercy on the Sabbath.

They could even rescue an animal in distress on the Sabbath.

They Had Demonstrated a Lack of Passion.

Godly or good people would have rejoiced in this man's healing.

That reminds us that there are always people who will be critical when the Lord works in an individual's life.

Remember this man could not help himself, but the Lord helped him.

Close:

We see many things in this story that apply to people today. There are many who are hopelessly looking for help. Many have tried a lot of things, but to no avail.

Many are looking for someone who can lead them to the One who can change them, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Don't grow discouraged when people become critical of the Lord working in your life.

Don't try to explain the process of what the Lord is doing but rather just speak about the person who is doing the working.