

The Leper

Feb. 21st, 2021

MATTHEW 8:14-22

And when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. **15** He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him. **16** That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. **17** This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."

18 Now when Jesus saw a crowd around him, he gave orders to go over to the other side. **19** And a scribe came up and said to him, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." **20** And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." **21** Another of the disciples said to him, "Lord, let me first go and bury my father." **22** And Jesus said to him, "Follow me, and leave the dead to bury their own dead."

The duration of leprosy is anything from twenty to thirty years. It is a kind of terrible progressive death in which a man dies by "inches."

The unclean man or women by law was obligated to shout "unclean, unclean, unclean" to anyone who would be near.

The Leper bypasses the cultural norm that kept him at a distance, and out of desperation he makes his way to Jesus.

Those who call Jesus "Lord," and do not worship Him, are more diseased than the leper was.

-Charles Spurgeon

What do we do with the pain?
