

LUKE I The Great Physician Text: Luke 13:10-17

Jesus Heals a Woman on the Sabbath

1. Luke is a physician and he took great interest in Jesus the Great Physician
2. Luke also records some of the most compassionate scenes of Jesus ministry
3. More than any other gospel writer, Luke includes the woman...Women of faith who followed Jesus and the women who were forgiven and healed by Jesus...

I. THE FAITH OF A SUFFERING WOMAN (v.10-11)

Jesus is traveling to Jerusalem & teaching in one of the Synagogues on the sabbath

A. HER SUFFERING

1. **Here is a woman who has been bent over and cannot not raise herself up**
 - a) She cannot see the beauty of the sky or the sun, or the sunset or the stars...
 - b) She can't hide her condition which makes her a spectacle wherever she goes... like a hutch-back or cripple.
 - c) This is not just a result of the aging process—it is an incurable condition
 - d) She is permanently Bent Over—It is a burden she can't hide or fake or ignore
2. **Some Medical experts have speculated that she had a condition...**
 - a) which made her spinal vertebrae fuse into a rigid mass...
 - b) Or a Muscular Paralysis that made her bent over permanently
3. **It is Painful and it is humiliating—And she suffered this way For 18 years!**

B. HER FAITH

1. **Not only do we see her suffering—but we also see her faith...**
2. **She's not at home—suffering alone**
3. **She's not at home—bitter and defeated**
4. **She's actually in the Assembly worshipping God!**
5. **She wants to Hear the Word of God and Worship with the people of God**

C. HER EXAMPLE

1. **Her Faith and Suffering is an example for us...**
 - a) Think of women over the years who were an example of faith to the congregation
 - b) Like Margie Scott—who had a terrible, painful condition of lymphedema
 - c) It would've been easier for her to stay home—
 - d) but sometimes she was the first one here on Sunday morning!
2. **Greek word: Hupomone is often translated as patience /patient endurance**
 - a) But patience is too passive of a translation—Hupomone is not a Passive word...
 - b) It is not just suffering hardship w/ passive resignation because we have no choice.
 - c) ***Hupamone is Facing Hardship with Faith — to Turn a Trial into Victory***
This woman is not giving up—and she is not giving in!

II. THE COMPASSION AND POWER OF JESUS (v.12-13)

A. HIS COMPASSION:

1. The Other People May Not Notice Her Anymore But Jesus does...
2. And Jesus knows she has been suffering for 18 years...
She didn't say this—Jesus did—He knew!
3. But Jesus is not going to wait another day...

B. HIS POWER: Jesus did not ignore her...

1. But Jesus is not going to wait another day...
2. He heals her on the spot in real-time in the synagogue in front of everyone!
3. He speaks and it is done — the effect is immediate and total
4. Her back instantly unfused and unloosed
5. She stands upright for the first time in almost 20 years—
and the first thing she does is praise God!

C. OVER AND OVER WE SEE THIS IN HIS MINISTRY...

1. We see His Compassion for the sick and suffering...
2. We see His tears over Jerusalem and at the death of His friend Lazarus
3. We See His Complete Mastery Over Nature, and Disease, over Suffering and even over death
4. We see He declared His Mission from the Synagogue in Nazareth
 - a) Prophesied by Isaiah and declared by Jesus Himself! ([Lk 4:16-21](#))
 - b) To preach the gospel to the poor / to heal the brokenhearted
 - c) set the captives free / Give Sight to the Blind / and liberty to the oppressed

III. THE REBUKE FROM THE RELIGIOUS RULER (v.14)

A. AN AMAZING MIRACLE JUST HAPPENED > IN REAL-TIME!

1. An Undeniable Miracle in front of everyone—and they all just witnessed it
 - a) It was a day of rejoicing and glorifying God for this woman who has been healed!
 - b) The people who saw it rejoiced!
2. But there is one face that is darkened by anger and resentment... (v.14)
 - a) The Ruler of the Synagogue is not happy...
 - b) But He doesn't have the courage to rebuke Jesus directly...
so he rebukes the congregation!
 - c) If You Want to be Healed—you have to make an appointment during office hours M-F
3. Here is a man who can't heal anyone on anyway of the week—
—criticizing Jesus for Healing on This Day of the Week!
 - a) Well if even she did—was he going to heal her?
 - b) Why Didn't he already Healed This Woman in the last 18 years?

B. THIS RULER IS TRYING TO USE THE LAW TO OUTLAW THE LAW GIVER!

1. Here is a Religious Leader who thinks the Law Outlaws the Lawgiver from healing on the Sabbath... as if Jesus broke the Law of God!
2. Even Today some actually Teach exactly what this Pharisees Taught!
 - a) that Jesus Broke the Law—but He “Broke the Law for Love” —so it’s ok!

C. JESUS NEVER BROKE THE LAW—HE FULFILLED IT: PERFECTLY

1. **(Matthew 5:17–18) What did Jesus Mean, a jot and a tittle?**
 - a) A **JOT** was the smallest letter in Hebrew (Greek: iota)
 - b) A **TITTLE** was the slightest stroke of a pen: like a serif or tilde (accent)
2. **Jesus Kept the Law Down to the smallest letter of the Law**
 - a) The Law was perfect and Holy...
 - b) But it could only be fulfilled by the One who was Perfect and Holy...
3. **However—by Healing on the Sabbath Day Jesus Made some enemies**
 - a) Not because He broke any law of God...
 - b) But Because He Broke the Man-made laws of the Scribes & Pharisees
 - c) Laws created by men and then taught as if they were from God

- **FOR EX: You could spit on a rock on the Sabbath**, but you could not spit on the open ground because that would be considered “plowing.”
- **You could not travel more than a certain distance on sabbath day.** BUT if you placed some personal possession at the limit of a Sabbath day journey, you could call that “home” and travel and equal distance further.
- **You could NOT untie a knot of the sabbath...** either for an animal or a pale to draw water from a well. **HOWEVER**, women could untie an article of clothing on the sabbath. So men would tie their wife’s *brassiere* to a pale or donkey Just to keep the Sabbath!

IV. THE IMPACT OF THE TRUTH ON THE HEART (v.15-17)

A. THE REBUKE (v.15-16)

1. **Was it more important—to loose an animal, or to loose a person?**
 - a) She was a woman—who is created in the image of God
 - b) She is a daughter of Abraham—of the covenant people of God
 - c) She was bound by the enemy—and needed to be set free
 - d) She suffered this way for 18 years—without giving up!
2. **Jesus calls them out for caring more for themselves and their animals—than for a woman of faith crippled for 18 years!**

B. THE REACTION (v.17)

1. **There were Two Reactions / Two Responses to these words of Jesus...**
 - **SHAME** from the Rulers who Replaced the Truth w/ Man-made rules to put burdens on the backs of the people they themselves wouldn’t keep
 - **REJOICING** from Those Who loved the Truth and were amazed by Jesus.
2. **The Truth HURTS like nothing else—but it also HEALS like nothing else**
The Truth will set you free!

V. WE CANNOT REDO OUR PAST, BUT JESUS CAN GIVE US A NEW FUTURE!

A. EVEN TODAY WE CAN STAY BOUND BY THE POWER OF THE ENEMY

1. **Bound by GUILT**... unable to get beyond the mistakes of our past
2. **Bound by ANGER**... over how someone mistreated us...
or how our life didn't turn out the way we wanted it to...
3. **Bound by ENVY, and GREED**, enclaving us to constantly be comparing
ourselves to others
4. **Bound by the SELFISHNESS of our FLESH:**
"No one is free who is a slave to his own flesh" (Seneca)

5. **Bound by ALCOHOL or DRUGS** to Self-Medicate our problems
6. **Bound by LIES** that enslave us with our inner-thoughts and Self-Talk
7. **There are strongholds of the mind that can keep us bound & enslaved...**
—strongholds of deception we might not even realize (2 Cor. 10:3–5)

EX: A gospel preacher was seated on an airplane next to a business executive...

- The Executive was BLIND, and Baxter couldn't help but ask what caused his blindness,
- The man said that a business competitor had hired a criminal to throw acid in his face.
- Baxter asked if he knew who it was—he said he thought so but couldn't prove it in court.
- Asked if he felt terrible resentment, he said "I did for years, but it dawned on me that I was doing myself the real injury. I forgave this man and I've actually done some favors for him in recent years."

(Wendell Winkler, Heart Disease and Their Cure p.7)

"The moment I start hating a man, I become his slave. He even controls my thoughts. I can't escape his tyrannical grasp on my mind. When the waiter serves me steak, it might as well be stale bread and water. The man I hate will not permit me to enjoy it." (S. I. McMillan)

B. JESUS IS THE GREAT PHYSICIAN...

1. HE CAN HEAL, AND FORIVE, AND SET YOU FREE!

"No one can go back and make a brand new start. But anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending." Carl Bard

CONCLUSION:

1. **Romans 8:28 God can take what is broken and make it beautiful**
 - Like broken glass washed up on the coastal rocks
over time becomes smooth and polished...
 - What was once broken can become beautiful again!
2. **This is Why Jesus went to the Cross For You and I!**
 - To Take Away the Pain and Guilt of our Past...
 - And to give us a brand new future!
3. **Jesus paid our debt in full at the cross—He died so that you could live**