



SUNDAY CLASS

1/25/09

Key Verses: Matthew 14: 34-36

Matthew 14:34-36 (New International Version)

When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed.

"Jesus Healing the Sick" by Gustave Doré



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Mat 15:31 Inasmuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

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Inasmuch that the multitude wondered, when they saw the dumb to speak, the maimed to be whole, the lame to walk, and the blind to see: and they glorified the God of Israel.

Matthew 14:34 (New International Version)

When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret.

“These were more noble than the Gergesenes, their neighbors, who were borderers upon the same lake. Those besought Christ to depart from them, they had no occasion for him; these besought him to help them, they had need of him. Christ reckons it the greatest honor we can do him, to make use of him. ”

*****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE**

Mark 6:53-56 (New International Version)

When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed.

John 6:24-25 (New International Version)

Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus.

Jesus the Bread of Life

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

Matthew 14:35 (New International Version)

And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him

“*Note, They that know Christ’s name, will make their application to him: if Christ were better known, he would not be neglected as he is; he is trusted as far as he is known.”**

“They had knowledge of him, that is, of his being among them, and that he would be put awhile among them.

*****Note, The discerning of the day of our opportunities is a good step toward the improvement of it.”**

*****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE**

“This was the condemnation of the world, that Christ was in the world, and the world knew him not (John 1:10); Jerusalem knew him not (Luke 19:42), but there were some who, when he was among them, had knowledge of him. It is better to know that there is a prophet among us than that there has been one, Ezekiel 2:5.”

*****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE**

John 1:10 (New International Version)

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

Luke 19:42 (New International Version)

and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.

Ezekiel 2:5 (New International Version)

And whether they listen or fail to listen—for they are a rebellious house—they will know that a prophet has been among them.

Mark 6:5 (New International Version)

He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them.

Luke 5:1 (New International Version)

The Calling of the First Disciples

One day as Jesus was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret,^[a] with the people crowding around him and listening to the word of God,

“*Note, those that have got the knowledge of Christ themselves, should do all they can to bring others acquainted with him too.”**

“We must not eat these spiritual morsels alone; there is in Christ enough for us all, so that there is nothing got by monopolizing. When we have opportunities of getting good to our souls, we should bring as many as we can to share with us.”

*****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE**

“Neighborhood is an advantage of doing good which must be improved. Those that are near to us, we should contrive to do something for, at least by our example, to bring them near to Christ.”

*****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE**

Matthew 14:36 (New International Version)

and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched him were healed.

“How they made their application to him; They besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment, v. 36. They applied themselves to him,

(1.) With great importance;

they besought him. Well may we beseech to be healed, when God by his ministers beseech us that we will be healed.

*****Note, The greatest favors and blessings are to be obtained from Christ by entreaty; Ask, and it shall be given.**

(2.) With great humility;

they came to him as those that were sensible of their distance, humbly beseeching him to help them; and their desiring to touch the hem of his garment, intimates that they thought themselves unworthy that he should take any particular notice of them, that he should so much as speak to their case, much less touch them for their cure; **but they will look upon it as a great favor, if he will give them leave to touch the hem of his garment. The eastern nations show respect to their princes, by kissing their sleeve, or skirt.**

(3.) With great assurance of the all-sufficiency of his power, not doubting but that they should be healed, even by touching the hem of his garment;

that they should receive abundant communications from him by the smallest token of symbol of communion with him. They did not expect the formality of striking his hand over the place or persons diseased, as Naaman did (2 Kings 5:11); but they were sure that there was in him such an overflowing fullness of healing virtue, that they could not fail of a cure, who were but admitted near him.

It was in this country and neighborhood that the woman with the bloody issue was cured by touching the hem of his garment, and was commended for her faith (chapter 9:20–22); and thence, probably, they took occasion to ask this.

*****Note, The experiences of others in their attendance upon Christ may be of use both to direct and to encourage us in our attendance on him.**

*****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE**

Matthew 9:20 (New International Version)

Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak.

Mark 3:10 (New International Version)

For he had healed many, so that those with diseases were pushing forward to touch him.

Luke 6:19 (New International Version)

and the people all tried to touch him, because power was coming from him and healing them all.

Acts 5:15 (New International Version)

As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by.

*****Note, 1. Christ's cures are perfect cures. Those that he heals, he heals perfectly. He doth not do his work by halves. Though spiritual healing be not perfected at first, yet, doubtless, he that has begun the good work will perform it, Philipians 1:6.**

Philippians 1:6 (New International Version)

being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

2. There is an abundance of healing virtue in Christ for all that apply themselves to him, be they ever so many. That precious ointment which was poured on his head, ran down to the skirts of his garment, Psalms 133:2. The least of Christ's institutions, like the hem of his garment, is replenished with the overflowing fullness of his grace, and he is able to save to the uttermost.

Psalm 133:2 (New International Version)

2 *It is like precious oil poured on the head,
running down on the beard,
running down on Aaron's beard,
down upon the collar of his robes.*

3. The healing virtue that is in Christ, is put forth for the benefit of those that by a true and lively faith touch him. Christ is in heaven, but his word is with us, and he himself in that word. When we mix faith with the word, apply it to ourselves, depend upon it, and submit to its influences and commands, then we touch the hem of Christ's garment. It is but thus touching, and we are made whole. On such easy terms are spiritual cures offered by him, that he may truly be said to heal freely; so that if our souls die of their wounds, it is not owing to our Physician, it is not for want of skill or will in him; but it is purely owing to ourselves. He could have healed us, he would have healed us, but we would not be healed; so that our blood will lie upon our own heads."

*****MATTHEW HENRY COMMENTARY ON THE WHOLE BIBLE**