

Petitions of Matthew 8

June 6, 2010/Sun Valley/tp

Introduction

A. Jesus has just preached the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5-7. Now we see a sampling of the response of the public to Him.

B. The petitions give us insight into what Jesus is capable of doing for us.

I. "If you will, you can make me CLEAN." -- Matthew 8:1-4

A. Leprosy consisted of skin eruptions, raw flesh exposed by disease.

1. The Law of Moses pronounced them "unclean" until they were healed of the affliction.
2. As unclean, they were outcasts. Could not enter the city, certainly not the Temple.

B. "Uncleanness" is more commonly a word for impurity of heart and life, unclean behavior, especially of immorality, sensuality, "lasciviousness" and "fornication"

1. Ezra 9:11 all the sins of the Canaanites, abominations are called uncleanness
2. Ezekiel 36:17; 39:24 includes murder, idolatry, transgressions.
3. Jesus accused the Pharisees of uncleanness, Matthew 23:27
4. Paul described the Gentile immorality as uncleanness, Romans 1:24; 2 Corinthians 12:21

"lusts of the heart" "dishonored their own bodies"

- Ephesians 4:19 sensuality, and greed, 5:5 no inheritance
- 1 Thessalonians 4:7 called us not to uncleanness

C. Jesus brought cleanness to the unclean, Luke 7:37, 48. He forgave their sins and gave them hope

1. Gospel makes the unclean clean, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11 washed, sanctified, justified....

CLEAN!

2. Acts 22:16 arise and be baptized and wash away your sins!
3. Titus 3:3-5 by the washing of regeneration!

II. "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed." Matthew 8:5-13

A. John was not worthy to untie Jesus' sandals, Matthew 3:11

B. Prodigal son was not worthy to be called his father's son, Luke 15:19

C. Romans 3:23 All have sinned and fallen short of the Glory of God,

1. No one is good, v. 12

2. Jesus would not permit the rich young ruler to casually call Him good without understanding what is implied by the word. Matthew 19:17 only God is good.

D. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us, Romans 5:6-8.

E. It is incumbent upon us to walk in a manner worthy of our calling, Ephesians 4:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 2:12F.

F. Revelations 3:4 "They are worthy!"

III. "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go." Matthew 8:18-22

A. Jesus answered, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."

1. What do you want out of Jesus? He denied Himself a certainly dwelling place on this earth.
2. Matthew 19:21-30 Jesus told one man to sell all he had to follow Him. The disciples had actually left all they had to follow him. Jesus promises 100 times more in this life and in the life to come life eternal.
3. 1 Peter 2:11 We are sojourners and exiles waging war against the passions of the flesh which wage war against the soul.

B. Jesus urges us to count the cost of discipleship

1. Luke 14:25-33
2. Must hate your family
3. Must bear your own cross and follow Christ
4. Remember the shame of builders and kings who fail to count the cost.

IV. "Save us Lord, we are perishing."

A. Life is full of terrifying storms.

B. They cried out to their Lord, but He calms the storm and turns on them saying, "O ye of little faith"

1. Jesus said that same thing in Matthew 6:30 of us when we worry over what we are going to clothe ourselves with.
2. Jesus said that same thing in Matthew 14:31 to Peter when even after he showed such marvelous trust in the Master of the winds and the sea that he walked on the water -- but faltered when he was distracted by the powerful stormy seas.
3. Jesus said that again in Matthew 16:8 to the disciples when they forgot to bring bread and worried that Jesus was rebuking them when He said, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees." He reminded them that He had fed the 5,000 and there was bread to spare (as well with the 4,000).

C. How often do we cry out to the Lord, "Save us Lord, we are perishing."!

1. And He is saying, "O ye of little faith"
2. Philippians 4:4-13 let the peace that passes understanding guard our hearts and minds

V. "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" ... "send us to the herd of pigs!"

- A. Sounds a lot like our profane neighbors, when they fall on hard times.
- B. This is a picture of Jesus on the Judgement Day.