

Class Structure

05/07/23

- 1: Sing Christ has Risen English & Greek**
- 2: Lords Prayer English & Greek**
- 3: Gospel Reading, discussion and explanation**
- 4: Talk to the class about Job from yesterday.**
- 5: Read the Creed to learn in Greek & English**
- 6: Play Cross of Christ game (*if have extra time*)**

1: Sing Christ has Risen English & Greek

2: Lords Prayer English & Greek

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John 5:1-15 *(New King James Version)*

A Man Healed at the Pool of Bethesda

1 After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Previously Jesus worked miracles for the samaritans and saved the royal official in Galilee. After that they were ready to follow Jesus. Now He comes to Jerusalem doing miracles that only God can do. Now He will free a paralytic after 38 years as He did for the royal official's son who was certainly dying. The royal official and his whole house believed and confessed Jesus as God, while the Jews want to kill and persecute Jesus after the miracle.

2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep *Gate* a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches.

3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water.

4 For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had.

The Pool of Bethesda	verses	The Fulfillment of Jesus Christ
A place of miracles		A Person of miracles
For one person at a time		For everyone at any time
Through angelic mediation		Without angelic mediation
For physical and temporal well-being		For spiritual and eternal well-being which begins with baptism

5 Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years.

Cyril of Alexandria said, The fact that the paralytic is healed before the fullness of time according to the law indicates, through the type of what happened, that after Israel irreverently rages against Christ, it will be sick and paralyzed and spend a long time in idleness; however, it will not go off into complete punishment but will be visited by the Savior and healed at the pool by obedience and faith. The fact that forty is the number of completion according to the divine law, Jesus will return to Israel just before judgement.

6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been *in that condition* a long time, He said to him, “Do you want to be made well?”

When Jesus saw the paralytic he had compassion on him as we should do when we see someone in need. He asks the man if he wants to be healed. This must seem odd to some when they see him trying to be healed, but Christ gives us free will and asks our will before any action takes place to stimulate our faith also. This is one reason we should have a personal relationship with Christ to confess our sins as well as our desires to him.

7 The sick man answered Him, “Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.”

The paralytic expected Jesus to tell and advise him to have someone throw him into the water to be healed. Since he had no one to throw him into the water, bound as he was by the disease, and lamented the lack of healers, he said, “I have no one,” that is, no one to bring him down into the water because he certainly had no one do this.

8 Jesus said to him, “Rise, take up your bed and walk.”

Jesus did not pray to God as a priest or profit would, asking for the paralytic to be healed. He demonstrated his power and authority as God over everything and commanded him to rise as he would do in the last days.

9 And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked.

And that day was the Sabbath.

Without hesitation, the man took up his bed and walked because he believed. Jesus did this on the Sabbath for two reasons. The first was so everyone would see this man walking after thirty-eight years. Everyone knew this man, and If they saw him walking because he was carrying a bed, they might believe. The second was to show that the well-being of our neighbor is more important than rules and that man was made for the Sabbath, not Sabbath for man.

10 The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, “It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your bed.”

Here the Jews were worried more about the law than their neighbor, or they wanted to find out who did this to charge Jesus with a crime to keep their authority.

11 He answered them, “He who made me well said to me, ‘Take up your bed and walk.’”

The cured man does not tell the Jews his name but tells them he was told to do something he had not done in thirty-eight years, demonstrating the miracle.

12 Then they asked him, “Who is the Man who said to you, ‘Take up your bed and walk?’”

13 But the one who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, a multitude being in *that* place.

14 Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, “See, you have been made well. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come upon you.”

Cyril of Alexandria said, Jesus made soul-benefitting instruction the occasion for his conversation with him, saying that he must no longer transgress so that he is not afflicted by worse evils than before. With these words he teaches not only that God stores up people’s transgression for the coming judgment but also that he scourges people in various ways while they are still living in the body, before the great and manifest day of the one who will judge all.

Saint Paul said “For this reason many of you are weak and ill, and some have fallen asleep. If we judged ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.”

15 The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had made him well.

After telling the Jews how he was healed when he found out it was Jesus who healed him, he tells the Jews so they might believe in Christ.

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