

**Series: Simply Jesus (10/7/18)**

**Title: The Weakness of Men**

**Text: (John 5:1-47)**

(John 5:1) “*After This*” - Recap John so far...

**A. Jesus as the Logos - The Word, chapter 1.**

1. Preexistence, Coexistence, Omnipotent v. 1-14.
2. Testimony of Jesus and John the Baptist, v. 15-34.
3. Testimony of early disciples, v. 35-51 .

**B. Jesus as the Creator, chapter 2.**

1. First miracle, changed water to wine, 2:1-12.
2. Cleaned the temple, 2:13-25.

**C. Jesus as the Savior, chapter 3.**

1. Conversed w/Nicodemus on the New Birth, 3:1-21.
2. Confession of John the Baptist, 3:22-36.

**D. Jesus as the Water of Life, chapter 4.**

1. Jesus confronts the Samaritan woman, 4:1-30.
2. Jesus converses with the Disciples, 4:31-38.
3. Jesus stays with the Samaritans, 4:39-45.
4. Jesus heals the Nobleman's son, v. 46-54.

**1. The healing of a lame man: 5:1-18**

(Vs 1) “*there was a feast of the Jews @ Jerusalem*”

What feast may be at hand is not clear.

7 major Jewish feasts a year.

3 of 7 is where the men were to appear.

This may not even be in the same year as Ch 4.

John’s gospel fills in gaps of Jesus’ ministry not included in the synoptics gospels.

(Vs 2) Sheep Gate = NE side of the city

Where sheep for Sacrifice were brought in.

**Pool** - For Ceremonial washing, prepare to worship.

**Bethesda** - *House of Mercy*

**5 Porches** - Porticos to provide shade-large pool.

(Vs 3) Where the “***impotent folk***” assembled.

**Blind:** Self Explanatory

**Halt:** Lame

**Withered:** Prolonged Weakness

- showing signs of Atrophy

Diseased, Crippled, Handicapped & Convalescing.

**“Waiting for the moving of the water”**

Explained by verse 4

(Vs 4) Do I believe what it says? YES.

*Bible is not all there is to know, it all I need to know.*

Note: Vs 3b -4 are omitted from the new bible versions

***Some Preachers are Idiots.***

They say these are not in the original text.

They don’t know that ...

I am holding the Preserved Word of God.

If I believe that God is, then He Can

He doesn’t owe me an explanation.

Maybe Superstition-but sooner or later, give up.

(Vs 5) 38 years - Prolonged condition. "Withered"  
He had given up on Doctors.  
He had resigned himself to a miracle.  
He was seeking that miracle, & had for 38 years.

***How many of us have missed our miracle b/c we quit  
Are we willing to patiently seek God for a Miracle?***

(2 Cor 12:7-10) Paul had a chronic illness.

### **3 Answers to Prayer:**

***Yes*** (God grants our request)

***Wait*** (I dislike most) - God will answer in His Time.

***No*** (Receive Grace to endure)

(2 Cor 12:9) This was the Answer God gave Paul.

God gives Grace to Endure.

BTW: YES - Sometimes is exactly ...

WHAT you asked for, the WAY you asked for it!

YES - Sometimes a different way than expected.

*Illus: Health issues: Doctor, Grace, Death!*

(Vs 6) *When Jesus saw him - Jesus sees us!*

When we think no one cares... Jesus sees us!

When we think no one understands: Jesus sees us!

We think that we are suffering alone: Jesus sees us!

(Gen 16:13) (Hagar) *Thou God seest me:*

The God who Sees; Sees You!

The God who Cares, Cares for You!

The God who answered prayers, Answers Your prayer

The Only God there is, Sees, Hears, Answers Prayer!

(Vs 6b) *knew that he had been now a long time in that case,*

A Clear reference to His Omniscience.

(Vs 6c) *Wilt thou be made whole?*

Seems like a foolish question.

I counsel people all day with Self-Inflicted Problems.  
I find myself asking the same seemly foolish question.

***"Do you Want your life to change?" Yes/No/Maybe***

***"Are you willing to do what it takes?" Yes/No/Maybe***

***"Are you willing to let the Bible be your authority?"***

***90% don't follow through!***

If you wanted better, you would Do better.

But you DON'T so you WON'T.

You just want me to agree that you are OK in your  
current Sinful Selfish State.

(Vs 7) *Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled,  
to put me into the pool: but while I am coming,  
another steppeth down before me.*

*"Its not fair that other people don't let me be 1st."*

The World, with only 1 minor exception is made up of  
OTHERS?

Its' everyone else in the world that needs to change.

So you want the 7.7 Billion other people to change, so you wont have too.

(Vs 8) **Jesus issued three simple imperatives.**

- (1) “Rise,” ***Getup!***
  - (2) “take up thy bed,” ***Pickup your Junk***
  - (3) “and walk.” ***Get Going!***
- Take Care of Yourself,  
Take Care of Your Responsibilities  
Live for Jesus!***

(Vs 9) HEALING!!!! YEAH!!!

(Vs 10) First Place he went was to the Temple!

He had been left out for 38years.

That’s how the Jews saw him carry his bedroll.

***Their was no scriptural law against carrying it.***

The Jews added it to the law = with the Word of God.

(Vs 11) I am doing what the Lord told me to do.

(Vs 12) - For 38 years, they did not care What he did or What day he did it on.

(Vs 13) He didn’t know who Jesus is.

Jesus Wanted the miracle to speak for itself.

(Vs 14) In Compassion, Jesus warns him to change.

His original illness had been the result of sin.

Not to suggest all sickness is the direct result of sin.

***Some sinful activities & have physical consequences.***

Sexual sin may bring sexually transmitted diseases.

Alcohol - Liver Disease.

Tobacco - Mouth, Throat, lung cancer.

Drugs - Jail or Dead.

Ect Adultery, Gambling, Stealing, Bitterness,

Anger, Wrath, Malice, Unforgiveness.

***We are not told what this man’s sin/his infirmity was***

Jesus’ statement would lead us to believe his problem was induced by sin.

One reason God warns of sin is because He knows the harmful consequences of Sin.

38 years of Disability is nothing compared the Eternity under the wrath of God.

(Vs 15)

He ran back to the Bondage of his dead religion.

He is captive to a false Religion.

It is immensely powerful & effective.

It has been in place for centuries.

It has a spiritual chokehold on their adherents.

We all have seen this when we have tried to witness.

Or those who have come to our doors.

(2 Cor 10) Paul calls them Strongholds.

(John 6:26) Superficial Interest in Jesus

(John 6:64) Jesus knew they didn't believe.  
(Jn 6:65-66) His former followers knew the choice they were confronted with, and they denied Jesus. The leaders would criticize Christ to keep the people from believing on Him.

(John 8:48) He was a Samaritan & demon possessed.  
(Matt 12:24) He works by the power of Satan.

The Pharisees, Saducees, Scribes, Rabbi's spent allot of time conducting a smear campaign to control the thinking of the people to keep them lolly to the system. He had a demon, He was Insane,

Across the Gospels was a rising tide of opposition against Jesus.

(Jn 1:11)  
(Jn 3:32)  
(John 7:25) They knew the leaders wanted him dead.  
(Jn 7:30, 44) Seeking to capture him.  
(Jn 8:20) God is restraining them these 3 times.  
(Jn 8:52) The people knew the leaders rejected him.  
(Jn 8:59) They tried to stone him.  
(Jn 9:) Jesus heals the blind.  
(Jn 9:22) The people feared the leaders.  
Threatened to be thrown out of the Synagogue  
The Leaders controlled their access to God, heaven,  
The leaders discredit the healed blind man.  
(Jn 9:24) They discredit Jesus.

The man healed was Fearful they would ban him from the temple, so he betrays Christ!  
The people knew what the price of following Christ!

(Jn 10:19-20) Claim Jesus is Mad  
(Jn 10:31) Tried to Kill Jesus

***Man-made religion forces conformity through Fear.  
Man-made religion forces conformity through Guilt  
out of a perceived loyalty.***

This is the power of False Religion to capture to mind and souls of the lost.

The devil tricks us into believing we have some debt of loyalty to the Dead Religion.

I don't owe my flesh anything. (Rom 8:12-14)  
When you choose sin, you betray Jesus, worship flesh  
Fleshly Fulfillment becomes your god.  
I will not betray Jesus & bow to my flesh.

I don't owe this world anything.  
I don't owe the devil anything.  
I don't owe my parents false religion anything.

Man Made religion lifts itself above the authority of scripture. ***I don't owe it anything!***

Any Religion that teaches our works save us is a lie.  
Any Religion that teaches our baptism save us is a lie.

Any Religion that teaches their ideas instead of scripture is a lie.

I Owe no allegiance to a Religion that uses Fear, Guilt, Intimidation, & False Doctrine.

I will not betray Jesus to stay right with man made religion. ***This lame man ran back to the bondage.***

***The question is: Are you still in bondage?***

(Jn 8:30-32) *As he spake these words, many believed on him. 31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

I will not betray Jesus for any False Religion.

I will not betray Jesus for any perceived loyalty to my parents. (Luke 12:51-53)

My parents didn't want me to give up my career to be a preacher!

They are in heaven now, & all straightened out!

***I will not betray Jesus!***

When face to face with the Truth, I Choose Jesus!

(Vs 16) *And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day.*

***You & I owe no allegiance to false religion.***

We are NOT REFORMERS!

We are not called to fix a corrupt system.

***We are called to proclaim the Truth.***

***I will not deny Jesus to make peace with something that is Not True!***

I Will Not Deny Jesus to make peace with my Lost Family members.

I Will Not Deny Jesus to make peace with my Lost friends.

The Rich man in Hell asked Moses for a Messenger.

(Lk 16:27-28) He did not want them to join him.

***Your lost friends in hell do not want you to join them***

***Your lost family in hell doesn't want you to join them***