

# THE GOSPEL OF MARK QUIET



## Mark 1:35-45 (NIV)

<sup>(35)</sup> Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. <sup>(36)</sup> Simon and his companions went to look for him, <sup>(37)</sup> and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" <sup>(38)</sup> Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." <sup>(39)</sup> So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons. <sup>(40)</sup> A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." <sup>(41)</sup> Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" <sup>(42)</sup> Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. <sup>(43)</sup> Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: <sup>(44)</sup> "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." <sup>(45)</sup> Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.

### \*Jesus needed to get away and pray

#### \*Leper

\*The scribes counted as many as 72 different skin diseases as leprosy. It was regarded as a divine punishment, the cure of which could only be effected by God.

#### \* Rules for Lepers

-Leviticus 13:45-46 - They had to stand at a distance of fifty paces. Cry out "Unclean, Unclean".

Cover their bodies and wear torn

clothing. Hair unkempt, live alone outside the city.

-They were put out as a way to protect the community. The sentence imposed on them robbed them of their health but their name, occupation, habits, family and fellowship and worshipping community. They were spoken of as the living dead.

-Leprosy was one of the most dreaded diseases and regarded as practically incurable. Exodus 4:6-8, Numbers 12:9-15, 2 Kings 5:1-27, 2 Chronicles 26:16-21.

### COMPASSION-POWER-WISDOM

\*Faith of the Leper "If you are willing" - breaks all the rules to get to Jesus. Didn't asked to be healed but to be made clean

\*\*"Filled with compassion" weird word—has both anger and help tied together. Jesus was angry not at the man but at the sin that had caused the disease in the first place.

\*Jesus touches the leper—which would have made him unclean according to the Mosaic Law. Jesus didn't have to touch him to heal him. How long had it been since the man had been touched?

\*\*"Strong Warning" and angry tone—stern. He gives him specific instructions to fulfill the law. Why?

-twofold— 1. Be properly restored to society

2. To be a testimony to the religious leaders

\*\*"spreading the news" means to 'set ablaze' - he directly disobeyed.

\*His actions directly affected Jesus ministry plans

\*Our actions directly affect God's plans

### CLEAN

Two birds had to be brought to the temple. One was killed the other was dipped in the blood of the first and set free. Three lambs were brought as an offering. The man had to wash himself and his clothes and shave himself, after 7 days he was re-examined. He then had to shave his hair, his head and his eye brows. Three tenths deals of fine flour mingled with oil and one long of oil. The amount was less for the poor. The restored suffered was touched on the tip of the right ear, the right thumb and the right big toe with oil and blood. He was given a final exam and if clear, he was allowed to go with a certificate that said he was clean