

## **Thanksgiving**

### **Luke 17:11-19**

**Intro:** In this season we show our thankfulness. A typical sermon preached here is on Jesus statement in verse 17, "but where are the nine?" I would rather like to concentrate on the thanksgiving of the one. Here in these verses we see Jesus traveling from the north country of Galilee to on His way to Jerusalem. This is to be His last journey because upon His arrival at Jerusalem the process of His crucifixion will be set into motion.

#### **A. The Lesson on Need and Gratitude, 17:11-19**

##### **1) Jesus went toward Jerusalem (v.11)**

##### **2) The lesson on need: Ten lepers were healed (v.12-14)**

- a. There was desperation (v.12a)
- b. There was humility (v.12b)
- c. There was a cry for mercy (v.13)
- d. There was perseverance (v.14a)
- e. There was believing, being tested, and obeying (v.14b)

##### **3) The lesson on gratitude (v.15-19)**

- a. All were blessed (v.15a)
- b. One gave thanks (v.15b-16)
  - 1) Glorified God (v.15b)
  - 2) Worshipped Jesus (v.16a)
  - 3) Was a Samaritan (v.16b)
- c. Most did not give thanks (v.17)
- d. The one who was the most rejected was the most thankful (v.18)
- e. The thankful one shall be the one assured of salvation (v.19)

**Leprosy:** The spots commonly exhibit themselves, at first, on the face, about the nose and eyes, and increase in size a number of years, till they become as large as a pea or a bean. There are three kinds of leprosy, distinguished by the appearance of the spots--the white, the black, and the red leprosy. These spots, though few at first, gradually spread till they cover the whole body. But though the appearance of the disease is at first in the skin, yet it is deeply seated in the bones, and marrow, and joints of the body.

. A leprous person may live twenty, or thirty, or even fifty years, if he received the disease at his birth, but they will be years of indescribable misery. The bones and marrow are pervaded with the disease. The malady advances, from one stage to another, with slow and certain ruin. "Life still lingers amidst the desolation;" the joints, and hands, and feet, lose their power; and the body collapses, or falls together, in a form hideous and awful.

There is a form of the disease in which it commences at the extremities: the joints separate; the fingers, toes, and other members, one by one, fall off; and the malady thus gradually approaches the seat of life. The wretched victim is thus doomed to see himself dying piece-meal, assured that no human power can arrest, for a moment, the silent and steady march of this foe to the seat of life.

This disease is contagious and hereditary. It is easily communicated from one to another, and is transmitted to the third and fourth generation. The last generation that is afflicted with it commonly exhibits the symptoms by decayed teeth, and fetid breath, and diseased complexion.

"Its commencement is imperceptible. There appear only some few white spots on the skin. At first they are attended with no pain or inconvenience; but no means whatever will remove them. The disease imperceptibly increases for many years. The spots become larger, and spread over the whole body. When the disease advances, the upper part of the nose swells, the nostrils become enlarged, and the nose itself soft. Tumors appear on the jaws; the eyebrows swell; the ears become thick; the points of the fingers, as also the feet and the toes, swell; the nails become scaly; the joints of the hands and feet separate, and drop off. In the last stage of the disease the patient becomes a hideous spectacle, and falls to pieces."

It was believed that sin or God's displeasure brought on the disease with the person afflicted, and that only God could heal this disease.

**Samaritan:** The land was originally lotted to the tribes of Ephraim and the half-tribe of Manasseh.

When the ten tribes were carried away into Babylonian captivity the King of Assyria sent people from other nations to occupy the land. At first they worshipped their idols, however lions were numerous in the land and the inhabitants supposing that God was angry with them for not honoring the God of the land the people began to worship God.

The major differences between the two nations are:

(1.) The Jews, after their return from Babylon, set about rebuilding their temple. The Samaritans offered to aid them. The Jews, however, perceiving that it was not from a love of true religion, but that they might obtain a part of the favors granted to the Jews by Cyrus, rejected their offer. The consequence was, that a state of long and bitter animosity arose between them and the Jews.

(2.) While Nehemiah was engaged in building the walls of Jerusalem, the Samaritans used every art to thwart him in his undertaking, Ne 6:1-14.

(3.) The Samaritans built a temple for themselves. This was erected on Mount Gerizim, and they strenuously contended that that was the place designated by Moses as the place where the nation should worship. Sanballat, the leader of the Samaritans, constituted his son-in-law, Manasses, high priest. The religion of the Samaritans thus became perpetuated, and an irreconcilable hatred arose between them and the Jews. John 4:20 *"Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship."*

(4.) Afterwards Samaria became a place of resort for all the outlaws of Judea. They received willingly all the Jewish criminals, and refugees from justice. The violators of the Jewish laws, and those who had been excommunicated, betook themselves for safety to Samaria, and greatly increased their numbers and the hatred which subsisted between the two nations.

(5.) The Samaritans received only the five books of Moses, and rejected the writings of the prophets, and all the Jewish traditions. From these causes arose an irreconcilable difference between them, so that the Jews regarded them as the worst of the human race, (Joh 8:48) and had no dealings with them, Joh 4:9. *"Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans "*