

Word on Wednesday Bible Study
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A PICK-ME-UP - John 5:1-11, 17-20

Introduction: The site of the pool of Bethesda was discovered in 1888. However, prior to its discovery, most scholars dismissed its existence as an unhistorical literary creation. Its discovery and the Bible's accurate description of it, serves as a reminder that the Bible is not the stuff of fables but facts. While archeological discoveries do not prove our faith, they help to fortify our faith not only in the accuracy of the Bible, but in the historical Jesus, whom the Bible testifies, was a healer. "He's Able" is a 2008 song written by Deitrick Haddon. Based on Ephesians 3:20, Haddon writes about the God who does exceedingly, abundantly above all you could ask of Him. As a result, he encourages the listener not to give up on God, because He has not given up on them. Are you in a situation where you've given up and now you just want to escape? Are you in a place where, based on your ability or inability, you've given up on yourself? Have you given up on anyone you don't have the power to help? Have you become so desperate that you've started looking to the superstitious because quietly, you have given up on God? No matter how long you've been stuck in your circumstance, God sees, God cares, and God can pick you up. A pick-me-up is something that stimulates, lifts, restores, or boosts a mood. God can not only pick you up, but He can also restore your life!

I. JESUS _____ NO AUTHORITY (5:1-7)

Authority can be defined as a person or organization that has power to command.

"Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.'" – Matt 28:18

Jesus asked: *Do you want to be healed?"- vs 6*

II. JESUS _____ WITH AUTHORITY (5:8-11)

Jesus' help was unexpected and beyond expected. The _____ was Jesus' command to "get up, pick up your mat, and walk" rather than putting the man in the water.

The _____ was that the man became instantly well.

"So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, 'It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.'" Vs. 10



“The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath” (Mark 2:27, NLT).

III. JESUS IS _____ TO AUTHORITY (5:17-20)

Jesus: “My Father is working until now, and I am working.” Vs. 17

This was why the Jews were seeking all the more to kill him, because not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God. Vs. 18

“So, Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.” - Vs. 19

Conclusion: The man by the pool of Bethesda never thanked Jesus for his healing. At first, he had no idea who healed him (5:13). It was only after Jesus found him and warned him to repent of sin, or something worse could happen, that the man knew it was Jesus and subsequently informed the Pharisees (5:14-16). There is no evidence that the man repented or put his faith in Jesus. This incident serves as a reminder that many people want God’s blessings but want nothing to do with Him. Even when faced with the miraculous happening in their lives, it’s not enough for them to repent and follow Jesus. Jesus pointed out to the lame man that he now had a fresh start in life and called for the man to repent, so that something worse would not happen. People’s refusal to repent and follow God is why they end up back in the situation that God delivered them from, or even worse. When’s the last time you thanked God for your miracle? What sin is God calling you to repent from, or something worse could happen? Is Jesus calling you to repent and give your life to Him today? Will you heed the call?