

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: [Luke 17:11-19](#).
- B. Our scripture reading for today was a story of ten men. One of which was thankful and gave glory to God. It is also a story of ingratitude.
- C. God, through JC, has done many things for us that we could never do for ourselves. Yet, many who enjoy these blessings are ungrateful.
- D. Let us look at this story and then make some applications.

I. THE LEPERS SAW THEIR NEED FOR JC.

- A. Leprosy was and is incurable. These men had a problem they could not take care of themselves or could any other man.
- B. These men were deemed "unclean" because of this disease. No one wanted to be close to them for fear of contamination.
- C. These men were in a hopeless condition.
- D. Sin leaves man in the same spiritual condition as did the leprosy on these ten men. Sin makes all men in "the same boat," we are unclean in God's eyes, and hopeless to do anything about it ourselves.
- E. Just as these men see their need to be healed physically by Jesus we need to see our need to be healed spiritually.

II. JESUS HEALED THEM, BUT THEY WERE NOT GRATEFUL.

- A. In 17:14, Jesus healed these men in a most interesting way. He told them to go to the priest, as they went--they were healed.
- B. No one could accuse Jesus of trickery in place of His healings. He healed people in different ways to avoid this. Sometimes Jesus would touch or speak, He would heal on the basis of another's faith, etc.
- C. There is no doubt that these men were cured. Dr. Luke records for us that one of the lepers, when cleansed, came back and shouted with a loud voice. Leprosy disables the voice as to not be able to make much sound at all. To hear the man yell is proof that Jesus did heal him.
- D. But the real emphasis of the story is that of the ingratitude of the nine as compared to the one. Jesus healed the unclean, hopeless, common man and of the ten only one came back to say "thank-you."

III. WHERE ARE THE NINE? (TODAY'S INGRATITUDE).

- A. Jesus asked, "Where are the nine, were not ten cleansed?" Even today with all Jesus has done for mankind I believe He is still asking the same question, "Where are the nine?"
- B. Where are the nine?:
 - 1. God gives life, days, health, food, water, clothing and who is thankful?
We complain if a steak is overdone, if it's too hot or too cold outside.
We complain if a shirt or slacks are out of style.
We complain about doctors and hospitals when we have the best in the world.
Is this characteristic of the one, or the nine?
 - 2. Jesus came and died on the cross and who is thankful?
We have crime, murder, theft, pornography, drug abuse, homosexuality, and profane language.
We have war, conflict, terrorism, and division.
Is this characteristic of the one, or the nine?
 - 3. Jesus died to give us the church and who is thankful?
We have over 300 denominations and some 1,200 splinter groups in this country alone.
And even in the church few will come to worship.

And even fewer get involved with the work of the church.

Is this characteristic of the one, or the nine?

4. Jesus gave us the Lord's Supper and many abuse it:
By thinking that as long as we have done that nothing else matters.
We walk out on the sermon, don't give of your means, etc., etc.
Is this characteristic of the one, or the nine?
 5. Jesus gave us the plan of salvation by which we may be saved:
Yet, religious scholars dispute it, change it, and just plain ignore it!
If we are thankful for what we can have it won't make any difference what it costs!
Is this characteristic of the one, or the nine?
 6. God, by His Spirit has given us the Bible:
And men are turning to atheism, agnosticism, humanism, and evolution.
To reject the Bible is great ingratitude for the words of God.
Is this characteristic of the one, or the nine?
 7. And maybe the saddest of all, is that some after becoming Xians go back to the world:
Thinking the world has more to offer than God.
To enjoy the passing pleasures of sin and only for a short time.
To love that which is temporary and detrimental to the soul.
This must be the height of ingratitude!
- C. Some 45 times, Paul, in Romans through Philemon gives thanks to God. Why was Paul so effective in his ministry. No doubt for many reasons but add to your list that of his being thankful for what he had in X.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. The one who was thankful, because of his thankfulness did two things:
 1. Gave thanks unto Jesus.
 2. Gave glory to God because of his faith.
- B. Who are you numbered with this morning? Take time to seriously consider your life and if your life is one of thanksgiving to God.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.