

Chapter Eight

The Miracles Begin

I. Introduction

- A. Now begins the main Miracle section of the life of the Messiah
- B. Jesus has mainly done only a few miracles, and a lot of teaching. Now He pours it on
- C. He is moving from small town to small town in Galilee – not the big cities

II. A Summary of the Miracles of Jesus in Matthew

- A. These are the basic Beginning Miracles of the Messiah (8:1 – 10:34). He has done many already, but not in detail. Now begins details about specific miracles
- B. Five Miracles in Chapter 8
 1. Jesus Heals a Leper (8:1-4)
 2. A Centurion Seeks Jesus' Help (8:5-13)
 3. Jesus Heals Peter's Wife's Mother (8:14,15)
 4. Jesus and His Disciples Cross the Sea of Galilee in a Storm (8:18,23-27)
 5. Jesus Heals Two Demon Possessed Men (8:28-34)

III. Lesson

A. _____ Follow Jesus (8:1)

1. At first people followed Him because of the Miracles (Mt 4:23-5:1)
2. Then for the powerful preaching and teaching (8:1)
3. Later still, because Jesus had the words of eternal life (John 6:67,68)

B. A _____ Healed (Mt 8:2-4)

1. What is leprosy? A _____
2. Famous lepers: _____
3. The Leper's Worship – not just desperation – called Him Lord
4. The Leper's Desire – to be clean, whole, healthy
5. The Leper's Surrender – to the will of Christ – the results were up to Jesus
6. Jesus _____ the Leper, while STILL a leper!
7. The Leper was _____ Healed
8. There is a Levitical Law for lepers (Lev 13, 14; Num 5:2)
9. All miracles that Jesus did were for a _____ to the Jews – as a sign (1Cor 1:22)

C. A Centurion Seeks Jesus' Help (8:5-13)

1. Capernaum in Galilee
2. Notice he calls Jesus “_____” - a title reserved for Caesar (Acts 25:24-26)
3. The servant had _____ – a paralysis – from a stroke, etc.
4. The Power of _____ to Authority
 - a. This Centurian ALSO was under authority, as he knew Jesus was
 - b. His servant was under the Centurian's authority
 - c. This Centurian was unworthy to ask
 - d. This Centurian was understanding of how God worked
 - 1) Through submission to authority
 - 2) Through the will of God
 - 3) Through the word spoken by God – not by preachers, or faith healers!!!
5. Jesus was impressed – Great Faith!
6. Jesus rebukes the Jews
 - a. The Gentiles who have no faith, and no religion, and no hope, will reap the blessings meant for Israel simply because of FAITH
 - b. Judgment was coming on those who know God, but do not know faith

7. Jesus here reveals the reason for _____ among Christians:

- a. As thou hast believed (9:29,30; 15:28; 17:20; 9:23)
- b. Our commitment to what we believe is the source of strength

D. Jesus Heals Peter's _____ Mother (8:14,15)

- 1. In Peter’s house – private land ownership – not socialist or communist
- 2. Peter was _____ (1Cor 9:5; 1Tim 3)
- 3. She was sick of the fever – could have been anything, but a fever was serious and deadly
- 4. Jesus went over and just touched her and the fever left
- 5. You and I have never seen that happen! No faith healer EVER removed even a fever in an instant!!!
- 6. As soon as she was healed, she got up and started serving everybody - truly healed

E. This is all to _____ Prophecy (8:16,17) – not to just make this world a better place

- 1. The people brought two kinds of problems:
 - a. People _____ – they knew it was spiritual possession and not physical
 - b. People just _____
- 2. Jesus healed them all
- 3. Used His _____, not a crucifix, or magic phrases – just the word of God
- 4. Isaiah 53:4 as well as Isaiah 35:5,6
- 5. See the difference in the quotation

Isaiah 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. <i>Massoretic Hebrew</i>	Matthew 8:17 Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.	LXX Isaiah 53:4 He bears our sins, and is pained for us: yet we accounted him to be in trouble, and in suffering, and in affliction.
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- 6. Issues:
 - a. Was it griefs, or infirmities (weaknesses)?
 - b. Was it sorrows or sicknesses?
- 7. This brings up the issue of whether the New Testament authors were quoting from another source than the Old Testament Hebrew? As in the Septuagint?
 - a. The association of the Latin numbers LXX (meaning 70) with the Septuagint comes from the legend concerning the origin of this Greek translation.
 - b. Supposedly SIX scholars from the twelve tribes number seventy-two (it is to be assumed that the 70 is merely a rounding off of the 72). These men had 72 days to translate the Law into Greek
 - c. One wide-spread myth concerning the LXX is an old story which states that the translators worked on their translation alone and compared their work each morning, only to find that each had translated the passage exactly the same.
 - d. The LXX is nothing but Vaticanus B, Sinaiticus Aleph, and Codex Alexandrinus used in almost all modern translations.
- 8. Principle is that the general meaning is meant, not always word for word mechanical translation.

F. Jesus _____ People's Desire to Follow Him (8:18-22)

- 1. Constraints on our commitment to Christ
- 2. 12 Disciples were to cross the Sea of Galilee
- 3. A certain _____ (copiest of the Law) volunteered to go with Jesus anywhere
 - a. Jesus warns him of no certain future – only following the will of God
 - b. Same with all of us who follow Him
- 4. Calls Himself the “_____” – first occurrence in Matthew

- a. Old Testament: Ezekiel 2:1
- b. New Testament: John 1:51
- c. It simply means, the son of Adam

5. Another man, this time a bona fide disciple WANTS to volunteer, but has something to do FIRST
 - a. Jesus sets it straight
 - b. You must have the right priorities to follow Him
 - c. Leave funerals to the lost
 - d. Luke 9:60 adds, but go thou and preach the Gospel – much more important

G. Jesus and His Disciples Cross the Sea of Galilee in a _____ (8:18,23-27)

1. In this storm, Jesus travels WITH His disciples
2. A great tempest – storm
3. The ship is being covered by the waves
4. The disciples PANICKED because they believed they were going to die
5. Jesus was sleeping – TIRED, needed rest as a man
6. Showing they were super safe
 - a. Obeying Jesus – in the _____ of God
 - b. Jesus was _____ them
 - c. They had enough faith if gthey just used it
7. Jesus reacted. Stood up; Rebuked the winds and the sea; Everything obeyed
8. They all ask what MANNER of man is this? What kind of a man can do this? Deity!

H. _____ Demon Possessed Men Healed (8:28-34)

1. Jesus Shows the Most Important Kind of Healing – healing of the spirit
2. Only 1 man is mentioned in Mark 5:1,2; and Luke 8:27
3. These men were possessed with devils
 - a. Created by THE devil
 - b. The size of _____ – Beelzebub – the lord of the flies
4. Possession means: _____
5. Characteristics of demon possession
 - a. Exceeding _____ – anger, wrath, bitterness
 - b. Terrifying to everyone – scary
 - c. Scarred of Jesus
 - d. _____ – ½ terrified of Jesus, the other ½ worshipping Him
 - e. Mark 5 says more
 - f. Had an unclean spirit – the opposite of the Holy Spirit
 - g. Lived in the tombs – obsessed with death, dying, hypochondriac
 - h. Unusual _____
 - i. Uncontrollable – untamable, unteachable, unchangeable
 - j. _____ all the time – totally emotional
 - k. _____ – cutting himself
6. These devils knew Jesus, and knew who He was – the Son of God
7. Notice that Jesus will torment them one day at an appointed time (**Rev 14:10**)
8. Jesus forces the devils out of both men and into 2,000 pigs
9. Those pigs went bizzerk – look at what those demons did to the pigs is what that man had been having to deal with and try and control! Suicide
10. The men were cleansed, and healed, and in their right mind
11. Yet the nearby community begged Jesus to leave – He was embarrassing, and not good for business!