

Wednesday
11/5/25
Ron
Black

The Danger of Staying By the Pool

John 5:2-4 (KJV) Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep *market* a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches. In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water. For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

This pool is a contention amongst Bible scholars as to what was happening there. Some say there was no angel in the pool just that that was the conclusion that people had come to because they could not explain it. Others say it had no characteristics of God in it's working because it puts deliverance in the first one that fights his way into the pool and selfishly claims the prize over others who were worse off and could not get there.

The pool was originally for the washing of animals as evidenced by it's location by the sheep market. But there were many people who were in such bad shape physically that they could not clean themselves but paid others to wash them. So they had started to wash them in the pool that was used for the animals.

But it was noticed that the water was visibly disturbed at certain times and when people were placed there they were healed of their diseases.

Now I believe the Bible and I believe this pool was an instrument of God to get all these people there on a certain day just as Jesus Christ had needed to be at Jacob's well to meet a Samaritan woman on a certain day.

John 4:4 (KJV) And he must needs go through Samaria.

John 5:5 (KJV) And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.

Moses tells the people in

Deuteronomy 2:13-16 (KJV) Now rise up, *said I*, and get you over the brook Zered. And we went over the brook Zered. And the space in which we came from Kadesh-barnea, until we were come over the brook Zered, *was* thirty and eight years; until all the generation of the men of war were wasted out from among the host, as the LORD sware unto them. For indeed the hand of the LORD was against them, to destroy them from among the host, until they were consumed. So it came to pass, when all the men of war were consumed and dead from among the people,

This man is a type of Israel at the time that Christ makes this visit to Bethesda. It's been 400 years and God has said nothing to them in all that time and they have perverted God's law and God's worship and are spiritually barren and impotent.

John 5:6-9 (KJV) When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time *in that case*, he saith unto him, Wilt

thou be made whole? The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me. Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk. And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.

The danger of staying by the pool. You'll notice that the Lord sent him away from the pool

John 5:14-15 (KJV) Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee. The man departed, and told the Jews that it was Jesus, which had made him whole.

This man had been staying by the pool for most of his adult life.

He needed to know that his Salvation was not in the pool or being by the pool but in doing what the Lord said do.

Why do you suppose Jesus did this on the sabbath day? I think for one thing to show the Jews that they were wrong in how they were using the sabbath day. They were using it to show their righteousness and to condemn others and had left God out of the picture.

For another He is revealing himself as the promised king of the Jews.

Malachi 4:2 (KJV) But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

That is Malachi and this scripture is a prophesy of the coming of the light of the world.

And ye shall go forth (loosed from your infirmity, loosed from your sins)

And grow up as calves of the stall- you'll have a good shepherd to watch and keep you from then on.