

SERMON OUTLINE/NOTES

"Helping the Helpless"

John 5:1-9 (John 5:1-15)

Introduction

- The lack of mercy & compassion – an ongoing problem within both the Old and New Covenant people of God (Micah 6:6-8; Malachi 9:1-18; Matthew 9:13; Hebrews Chapters 9 & 10; Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:23-28)

Jesus Heals the Crippled Man (vs. 1-9)

- Jesus returns to Jerusalem for a feast (v. 1; John 2:13; 6:4; Leviticus 23:23-44)
 - "Besought" – to beseech earnestly (beg) (Luke 18:1-8)
- "Bethesda" – "House of Mercy" (vs. 2-4)
 - Many "impotent" people – blind, lame and paralyzed waiting to be healed when the angel stirred the waters of the pool
 - A sign to God's people the time of redemption was drawing near – Spiritual healing through Jesus Christ, reassuring the people God had not Forsaken them
- An crippled man was there; waiting 38 years to be healed, not able to get in the pool first (v. 5)
- The Lord helps the helpless; including the spiritually helpless – all mankind (v. 6)
 - Jesus helps the helpless sheep of His flock, according to the eternal decree of God (Romans 9:15; Psalm 72:12)
- "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk (vs. 8-9)
 - Immediate healing – complete and fully healed (v. 9)

Conclusion and Application

- Do we show mercy and compassion to those who are helpless in our day?
 - Not necessarily their physical infirmities; but rather, their spiritual infirmities
- Will we tell them through our words and deeds that in Jesus Christ there is healing from their spiritual infirmities?