

## **Exegetical Notes - Luke 17:11-19**

### **“One Gave Thanks”**

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## **Luke 17:11-19**

### **Verse 11-13**

*Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!”*

- Jesus was traveling towards Jerusalem. As he made his way he encountered 10 lepers who asked him for help. They wanted to be cured from their problem.
- Leprosy was a feared skin-wasting disease for which there was no cure. These men were outcasts because people feared contracting the disease from contact with those who had the disease. That is why they cried out from a distance. They could not come close to him, so they cried out loudly asking for his help.

### **Verse 14**

*When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.”*

- According to the Law of Moses, a person who recovered from leprosy was required to go to the priest. If the priest examined them and discover that they had been cured, they so announced it and those cured were allowed to return home. Therefore, Jesus sent these men to see the priest.
- As the ten men made their journey to see the priest, they were healed. The healing happened in process according to the obedience of the lepers, but it did not happen until they stepped out to obey Jesus.

### **Verse 15-16**

***One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him -- and he was a Samaritan.***

- One of the ten lepers, realizing that he was cured returned to Jesus to thank him, but the other nine did not.
- The man who gave thanks was not even a good Jew. He was a Samaritan.

### **Verse 17-19**

***Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner!" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well."***

- Jesus remarked that those good Jews, who should have returned to thank him and to praise God, did not. They assumed that their healing was theirs to have because they were good Jews. They were not grateful like the Samaritan but took what they had gotten for granted.
- Jesus told the Samaritan to go on his way knowing that he had been cured because he had faith in God and did as Jesus told him to do.

(These exegetical notes are the foundational study for the sermon entitled *One Gave Thanks*. They have been prepared by the Reverend Doctor Charles H. Jensen, Senior Pastor at Cornerstone Fellowship, Coatesville Pennsylvania. All rights are reserved by Dr. Jensen and *Cornerstone Fellowship*.)