

The Great Physician

Matt. 9:10-13

Introduction:

- A. Jesus used various vocations to illustrate spiritual truth.
 - 1. Farmers: sower - vine dresser - Shepherd.
 - 2. Fisherman
 - 3. Physician
- B. “Physician” suggests *considerations* about the work of Jesus — Patient, Physician, Prescription.

Discussion:

I. The *Patients* of the Great Physician.

- A. “Not the righteous, but sinners” (v. 13; cf. Rom. 3:10, 23; 5:12).
- B. The nature of the disease:
 - 1. Deceptive (Heb. 3:13; cf. Rev. 3:17).
 - 2. Contagious (1 Cor. 15:33; Gal. 2:11-13).
 - 3. Fatal if not arrested (Jas. 1:15; Rom. 6:23).
 - 4. Will not cure itself — only gets worse (2 Tim. 2:16; 3:13).

II. The Great Physician Himself.

- A. He is eminently qualified -- able. (Heb. 7:25).
 - 1. Ordained before foundation of world (1 Pet. 1:20).
 - 2. Knows the patient and the disease (John 2:24, 25; Heb. 4:15).
 - 3. Willing (Matt. 11:28-30; 2 Pet. 3:9; Rev. 3:20).
- B. He is great than all other physicians.
 - 1. Many won’t come unless sent for and payment guaranteed (cf. John 3:16; Rom. 5:8).
 - 2. May catch the disease themselves (cf. Heb. 4:15).
 - 3. Often lose patients who take their medicine (cf. 2 Pet. 1:5-10).

III. The *Prescription* of the Great Physician.

- A. It is the His gospel (Rom. 1:16; 1 Cor. 15:1-4).
- B. It must be taken. (Matt. 28:19-20; Mk. 16:16; Lk. 2:47).
- C. It must be taken as directed (cf. Rev. 22:18).
- D. It must be taken without excuses:
 - 1. “Can’t understand how it works” — Lack of faith in Physician.
 - 2. “Won’t do any good”
 - a. Too sick” — “Not good enough to be a Christian.”
 - b. “Won’t last, may get sick again” — “May not hold out.”
- E. It may be a “bitter pill” for some to swallow.
 - 1. The demands of repentance.
 - 2. The demands of discipleship (cf. Lk. 14:26, 27, 33).

Conclusion:

- A. If hungry and refuse food, who is responsible?
- B. If sick and refuse treatment, who is responsible?
- C. If sinner and refuse gospel, who is responsible?