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“17 And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them.” (Luke 5:17 KJV) Here the Lord was teaching and were gathered to Him Pharisees and teachers of the law, and it mentioned that *“the power of the Lord was present to heal them.”* Are the Pharisees were sick physically? It might be. It might be also the power of healing was present to heal the sick as had happened earlier, *“But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities.” (Luke 5:15 KJV)* Or to heal the sick who will be coming later on as we can read in the next verse, *“And, behold, men brought in a bed a man which was taken with a palsy: and they sought means to bring him in, and to lay him before him.” (Luke 5:18 KJV)*

The Pharisees and the teachers of the law might not be physically sick nor has the common illnesses of the world. But they were having other sicknesses, the spiritual ones, which are sins. Even today, the church what is suffering much, not of the physical illnesses but the spiritual ones, that are the sins! The most serious situation that the church is facing is worldliness, infected with all the current idols in the world, and heading towards achieving plans that are not of God. The church leaders are so involved to justify worldliness and to condone what the cultural and traditional practices dictates on the church, putting aside the Word of God that gives healing and deliverance from such terrible sicknesses that had affected various offices like the marriages, the finances, the family setup and the children rearing.

When Christ came to give His life to redeem Israel and the whole world from sins, the religious system at that time First, out of envy or jealousy, did not recognized Christ being the Messiah, Second, out of their ignorance, they did not know what really the Scriptures speak about Christ. Or the Scripture was not expounded to them why they need Christ and when Christ will come what He needs to do. That is why they treated Him as their own enemy when He started to touch their systems and setups. Even to this very day, when the system of the

church that integrated worldly and traditional set up being touched, church leaders would react and will start to pick up things to disqualify and escape the teachings that intended to give freedom and allow the blessing of God and His healing grace to flow to the people of God.

“21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?” (Luke 5:21 KJV) Now about the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who came to Him to listen to His teaching, if they had come to learn and apply then they would not be condemning Him at the end, but most likely they came to find fault on him. They at once reacted when Jesus announced the forgiveness of the sins to the man who was with palsy, *“Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.” (Luke 5:20 KJV)* First they accused Jesus with blasphemies when they said: *“Who is this which speaketh blasphemies?” (Luke 5:21 KJV)* Blasphemies mean He was against God, they said that to disqualify Jesus and His teaching. Second they rejected Jesus as God when they said: *“Who can forgive sins, but God alone?” (Luke 5:21 KJV)* So they did not recognize Him as God. Third they were ignorant that the Messiah would come into the world to save His people from sin. In evangelism Scriptures needs to be analyzed first to be understood and applied. The Pharisee did not really realize their needs. Their needs are that their sins need to be forgiven. The answer for that is in Christ, the Messiah. The same today our need is that our sins need to be forgiven and the answer is in Christ. But we ought to repent and come back to Him. To repent we really need to go back to the Word of God, understand them and analyze ourselves and see sins in our lives based on God’s Word and repent of them all.

When the angel of God announced to Joseph that his wife is pregnant by the Holy Ghost he also informed him the following: *“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21 KJV)* What was in the minds of the most of the Jewish that the Messiah is the king that when He will come He will fight their battles and deliver them from the nations that enslaving them. That is why when they found Jesus doing miracles they tried to make Him king, *“14 Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world. 15 When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, he departed again into a mountain himself alone.” (John 6:14-15 KJV)* So what we notice here, the people are with wrong mind setup and that was not corrected. They wanted to make Jesus King over them for the sake of the miracle that He did by feeding them bread. Another occasion where pointing to Christ being the Messiah based on the miracles He was doing is this, *“And many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this man hath done?” (John 7:31 KJV)* Miracles and healing and other great things are not the purpose and the reason for Christ to come on earth. Christ came to save the world from sin. God the Father and God the Holy Spirit had done all what Jesus did on the earth when He came, except the death of Jesus on cross for our sins, that was a particular task that Jesus did.

Truly the Old Testament Scriptures speak that God forgive sins, *“I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.” (Isaiah 43:25 KJV)* But also the Old Testament Scriptures tell us the followings about how God forgive our sins through the Messiah’s suffering: *“5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. 6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” (Isaiah 53:5, 6 KJV)* That

He was afflicted and punished for our sins, and in effect of that we received peace and healings from sins and sicknesses. It is also mentioned here about the Messiah that ***“The LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.”*** (Isaiah 53:6 KJV) So here clear that the Pharisees and the teacher of the law they should know that God would forgive sins only when He take away sins and put them on the Messiah who should be a man from among them. They were aware of the fact that there should be shedding of blood for the forgiveness of sins, because even until Christ time they were offering sin offerings (goats, sheep, etc.) for the forgiveness of sins. There are good example of that in the book of Leviticus chapters 4 and 5. Few examples we can read here: ***“And he shall burn all his fat upon the altar, as the fat of the sacrifice of peace offerings: and the priest shall make an atonement for him as concerning his sin, and it shall be forgiven him.”*** (Leviticus 4:26 KJV) ***“And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as the fat of the lamb is taken away from the sacrifice of the peace offerings; and the priest shall burn them upon the altar, according to the offerings made by fire unto the LORD: and the priest shall make an atonement for his sin that he hath committed, and it shall be forgiven him.”*** (Leviticus 4:35 KJV)

The eunuch that Philip met he was just came to Jerusalem and he was returning back. ***“26 And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. 27 And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, 28 Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet. 29 Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. 30 And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou rearest? 31 And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he desired Philip that he would come up and sit with him. 32 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth: 33 In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? for his life is taken from the earth. 34 And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? 35 Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.”*** (Acts 8:26-35 KJV) That man went to Jerusalem for worship and sure he was in the temple and met the priests, and if he attended certain feast there, sure the Scriptures was read and expounded, he got revived and now he was back home, reading the prophet Isaiah Scripture, but he did not know the meaning. He was reading from *Isaiah 53:7-8*, ***“7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. 8 He was taken from prison and from judgment: and who shall declare his generation? for he was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of my people was he stricken.”*** (Isaiah 53:7-8 KJV) That Scriptures was not explained to him, and he was ignorant of the meaning, of Jesus being the Messiah till Philip explained that to him. The same what we proposed here why the Pharisees and the doctors of the law were ignorant on the part of the Scripture that speak that the Messiah would take and bear the sins of the people, because that teaching they were not taught of and that is why they did not accept Jesus as the Messiah.

So those Pharisees and the teachers of the law who came to see Christ, they had not been taught or explained to them, that for God to forgive their sins through the messiah, that He will lay their sins on Him. Otherwise instead of saying, ***“Who can forgive sins, but God alone?”***

(*Luke 5:20 KJV*) They ought to say, *‘Who can forgive sins, but God alone on laying them on the Messiah.’* But they were not taught and what was in their mind was not set on God’s Word to be fulfilled but on other things. That which was lacking in their minds had caused ultimately to reject Christ as the Messiah. Why they rejected Christ because they know that they can receive provisions and miracles and healings from God, but they were not taught that their sins would never ever be forgiven unless God would take their sins and lay them on Christ.

Even today the ignorance in the Scripture had made the church not able to see the way that God wants us to repent. Repentance would bring the healing that the church need today from the palsy that she is in. Jesus was sighing in His heart about their ignorance, ***“39 And some of the Pharisees from among the multitude said unto him, Master, rebuke thy disciples. 40 And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out. 41 And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, 42 Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.”*** (*Luke 19:39-42 KJV*) *Even today, the truth is hidden from the eyes of Christ’s church and ignorance in many ways of God had crippled the church. Therefore when we evangelize we need to speak and teach the things that will expound the current sins that the church is not willing to touch.*

The writers of the book Hebrews, who wrote to the Jewish, explained to them the need of the blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of sin. Because that is the doctrine that was hidden from their eyes, and that is the doctrine that they were not taught of, ***“19 For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, 20 Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. 21 Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. 22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. 23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. 24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: 25 Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; 26 For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.”*** (*Hebrews 9:19-26 KJV*) The writer of Hebrews did not speak about Christ miracles but he spoke to them the doctrine that was not explained to them by their teachers. He spoke to them about Christ being the high priest and being the sacrifice; He offered Himself as a sin offering for our sins.

Once again we come to the same point that we will not be able to evangelize reaching the lost and those who are willing to repent and be forgiven and healed without reaching the church leaders who misleads them, either due to ignorance or due to worldliness and wrong motives in serving. Therefore we need to reach them with the doctrine and the teaching that they lack and was not explained to them.

“22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts? 23 Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk?” (*Luke 5:22-23 KJV*) Even when that had happened and they did not believe on Him,

Christ discerned the wrong thoughts in their hearts and explained to them that the root cause of the man sickness is sin and repentance will bring forgiveness and healing and the person will be well as before and will be able to walk. Then Jesus told them that He is the Son of man and have the power to forgive sins, and exercised that power before their eyes **“24 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house.”** (Luke 5:24 KJV) And when all these had happened and the man went home healed this what they expressed: **“26 And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day.”** (Luke 5:26 KJV) They were amazed; they glorified God, and filled with fear after they witness the healing. People are more excited with physical achievements, but they did not acknowledge that Christ is in the midst of them, and they said, **“We have seen strange things to day.”** (Luke 5:26 KJV) Nowadays when the roots cause of sin is exposed and the Word of God expounded in a realistic way people will respond that this is strange things and they never hear as such before.

The men who brought the paralytic man were blocked by the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who came not seeking for healing or willingness to repent: **“19 And when they could not find by what way they might bring him in because of the multitude, they went upon the housetop, and let him down through the tiling with his couch into the midst before Jesus.”** (Luke 5:19 KJV) The crowd of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were blocking those who want to repent. Even today, the same is taking place in God's church. Therefore, Scriptures need to be analyzed and expounded so that the ways of God will be shown clearly to those who want to repent.

Those who brought the man they have faith and they knew what they were doing, that is why Jesus worked with them and healed the man, **“20 And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.”** (Luke 5:30 KJV) We need to know what we are doing, facing the leaders with their sins, and bring others who want to repent to Christ.

Those men who brought the paralytic they were not only hard working, creative and have faith, but they accepted and believed the scriptures, and they brought the man right in front of Jesus who pointed out to him that sin is the cause of his sickness, and that led him to repentance and his sins was forgiven and he went to his own house gladly in obedience to Christ's Word, “25 And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.” (Luke 5:25 KJV) We need in the same way brings the people right in front of Jesus (through showing them His Word and explained them precisely to them, so they can repent of their sins, confess them, renounce them and got saved).

My Dear and Beloved:

Miracles and healing and other great things are not the main purpose and the reason for Christ to come on earth. Christ came to save the world from sin. God the Father and God the Holy Spirit had done all what Jesus did on the earth when He came, except the death of Jesus on the cross for our sins, that was a particular task that Jesus did and came for.

Our need is that our sins need to be forgiven and the answer is in Christ. Therefore, we ought to repent and come back to Him. To repent we really need to go back to the Word of God,

understand them and analyze ourselves and see sins in our lives based on God's Word and repent of them all.

The ignorance in the Scripture had made the church not able to see the way that God wants us to repent.

In evangelism Scriptures needs to be analyzed first to be understood and applied.

The roots cause of sin need to be exposed and the Word of God need to be expounded so people will realize what is going on in their lives so they can see their sins clearly.

Even today, the truth is hidden from the eyes of Christ's church and ignorance in the ways of God had crippled the church. Therefore when we evangelize we need to speak and teach the things that will expound the current sins that the church is not willing to touch.

Even to this very day, when the system of the church that integrated worldly and traditional set up being touched, church leaders would react and will start to pick up things to disqualify and escape the teachings that intended to give freedom and allow the blessing of God and His healing grace to flow to the people of God.

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The crowd of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law were blocking those who want to repent. Even today, the same is taking place in God's church. Therefore, scriptures need to be analyzed and expounded so that the ways of God will be shown clearly to those who want to repent.

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We need in the same way brings the people right in front of Jesus (through showing them His Word and explained them precisely to them, so they can repent of their sins, confess them, renounce them and got saved and receiving healing and miracles in Jesus name).

Evangelism will always go forward using the Word of God to reach the lost and to deal with the leaders who are hindering them from coming to Christ. As Christ and His Apostles used this method, in preaching the Gospel and spreading God's Word, we need to do the same as we endeavor to reach the world with a non compromising message, and saving the lost from the clutches of Satan.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life.*

Let us confess and renounce our sins to the Lord. Lord I renounce the following sins

Lord I thank you for your Word that caused me to repent.

Lord I commit myself to go and serve you and do the work that you had prepared in advance for me to do. Lord I am willing to go to wherever place or people you are going to send me. Lord I abide with your will and plan to deliver the message that you want me to deliver. Lord I am willing to face the people with their sins and I am willing to face the leaders who are taking the people, misleading them in a direction away from You.

Lord refills me with the Holy Spirit and gives me the spiritual gifts that I need in my life to serve you, to evangelize and to proclaim your Word and your will. Lord sustains me with a good health and the needed strength to do this ministry. Lord hides me from wicked people. Lord I trust you to protect me and provide for me as I go forward to spread your Word to the lost world.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and my Sisters who committed their lives to go and evangelize, Lord Baptize them with the Holy Ghost, and give them the spiritual gifts to go and spread your Word. Lord gives them boldness to stand firm and to abide in your Word and to do your will in full. Lord I pray that you will protect them and provide all their needs and do marvelous miracles in their lives and in their ministries.

Lord bless your church, and enable us Lord to reach new people, new families, new villages, and new areas with the gospel, impacting new cities, countries and nations with the gospel of Jesus. Lord enables us to preach boldly your Word and to do the very thing that you wants us to do.

Lord enables us to plant new Bible studies and more congregations in various places. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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