

## ***Faithfulness and Gratefulness Rewarded Part 1***

***“11 And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. 12 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: 13 And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. 14 And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. 15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, 16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. 17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? 18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. 19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.” (Luke 17:11-19 KJV)***

People at the time of Jesus when they want to go from Jerusalem to Galilee or from Galilee to Jerusalem they need to pass through Samaria because it is in between the two places, but since they don't like the inhabitants of Samaria and they considered them unclean because they were not Jewish in origin, the people will make a curve walk around Samaria in reaching either Galilee or Jerusalem. Our Lord Jesus Christ sometimes was passing through Samaria to reach the people there and to preach to them the good news as what we read in the above Scripture that Jesus was travelling through the midst of Samaria and Galilee because He wanted to help ten men who had leprosy. *What we learn from here that we need to pass through certain places even if we don't like the people there in order to preach to them the gospel and to show them the love of God in order for some of them to be saved.*

People who had leprosy from the time of Moses till the time of the Lord Jesus Christ they were considered as unclean, therefore they were kept outside the cities and villages and were not allowed to meet people and live with others because they were considered unclean. They were kept outside the villages and cities away from the contacts with the people and only the priests were allowed to examine them to check if they are healed. And if they are healed the priests will allow them to come inside and resume their normal life and that is why the Lord told them to go and to show themselves to the priests.

It was so disgraceful things to have leprosy; the society and the people will look down on those who are affected by such condition, therefore when the Lord met the ten leprous men they stood at a distance from Him. You might not have leprosy but you have other conditions that bring disgrace in your life. For certain societies to be a poor is a disgraceful thing, or to be a sick a disgraceful thing, or to be a woman is a disgraceful condition, or to be unmarried is a disgraceful thing, or to be without children is a disgraceful thing, and so on, etc. So what the ten leprous did? ***“13 And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” (Luke 17:13 KJV)*** *So whatever condition that you are passing through and causes you suffering, isolation, rejection, and people seeing you odd and treat you accordingly, do the same as those lepros and call out to the Lord in a loud voice to have mercy on you and reverse your condition. Crying to God is effective, because you don't know how God will answer your prayers and how God will help you to overcome your struggles.*

Indeed the Lord responded to their cry and He told them, ***“14 And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.” (Luke 17:14 KJV)*** Sometimes we might think that the matter that we are

suffering from is impossible but nothing is impossible with the Lord. *The thing that you might think is a remote possibility to happen the Lord can achieve it for you. So trust Him and obey His Word.*

The Lord Jesus Christ had done great things to those ten leprous and He saved them and delivered them from very difficult and shameful condition. Therefore they ought to be faithful and grateful to the Lord. But what we find here that only one person came back and showed his faithfulness to the Lord. Even Jesus was astonished by saying; ***“17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?” (Luke 17:17 KJV)*** Jesus had helped, supported, healed, delivered, provided, answered prayers and He had done so and so for many people, but the question, how many of them returned to the Lord?

We may ask and say all the ten of them got healed but why only one came back? The same for now, the Lord is caring and blessing many people but why only few come back to the Lord? The leprous who came back and the people who come back after receiving Christ's blessings they are:-

***1. Aware and can recognize the source of the blessings:*** *Sometimes you got healed, relieved or got delivered. You might relate that to some people who helped you or to yourself who worked to help yourself. But you had forgotten that you had prayed and what you are now is the Lord's answer to your prayers.*

***2. Faithful to the Lord:*** \* *Faithfulness is needed and required toward the Lord. We don't only ask Him when we are in troubles, but after He relief us we need to keep our commitment to Him and to live our lives in a way to please Him.* \* *Many they use the Lord when they are in distress but after He released them and relieved them they will forget what He asked them to do and to be. Don't be like such; yes you have privileges from the Lord but you have also responsibilities that you need to do and keep the commitment.* \* *God's servant should be faithful to the Lord in whatever circumstance, even in suffering God is suffering also with us. So we need to go forward with the Lord and serve Him in all situations.*

***3. Grateful and gracious toward the Lord:*** Our hearts should be filled with thanks toward the Lord. Jesus had done great things for us. We need to be grateful to Him as He died for us on the cross to give us eternal life. God wants us to have gratitude and grace in our hearts toward Him, ***“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.” (Colossians 3:16 KJV)***

***4. Obedience to the Lord:*** Faithfulness and gratitude is an act of obedience toward the Lord. Those whom God intervened in their lives and had blessed them but they did not continue to walk with Him they are disobedient to Him. *You need to continue to walk with God and that is how you will show your obedience to God.*

***5. Fearing the Lord:*** The healing process that had happened to the ten leprous, as well as whatever Christ did to the people in answer to their prayers and saved them from perils, sickness and troubles is one way of God in calling the people and revealing Himself to them. They should not ignore God's calling for them. When God called Noah the Word of God informed us that Noah responded to God's call, and in holy fear built the ark, ***“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the***

*saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.” (Hebrews 11:7 KJV) Lack of response to God’s intervention and help is a lack of fear in God.*

**6. Wise in taking decision:** The leprous person who came back to the Lord after healing, and those who decide to continue to walk with the Lord after receiving God’s healing they are wise people in their decision. For when they decided to obey the Lord and serve Him they are more privileged than those who kept the Lord behind. When we decide to continue to obey the Lord and serve Him then we are wise and became more privileged and blessed than those who left the Lord behind.

Life is giving and receiving. People they wish always to receive but are unwilling to give. People they want to get good things but not aware that they need to give good respond to what they receive. People they always want to receive but are unwilling to give in order to receive. People always want to get good things but they are not realizing that there is no harvest if there is no sowing. The Lord says in His Word, **“It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Acts 20:35 KJV)** So we must understand that our relationship with our Lord is not only including receiving but giving as well.

The ten leprous that the Lord healed they received the same healing from the Lord, but only one of them showed the right action and the correct attitude to the Lord as we read here, **“15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, 16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.” (Luke 17:15-16)** He showed that as the following:

**1. He recognized the answered prayer:** **“And one of them, when he saw that he was healed,”** when he saw he was cleansed from his sickness and shameful situation he recognized that it is the Lord’s doing in His life. Many time people and you might be among them, when pray and cry to the Lord to heal sicknesses and to reverse distress, painful and shameful status, when the Lord will answer the prayers and do what was asked of Him to do, they and may be you will not recognize that; this especially when it happen after a period of time. Lack of faith and faithfulness will not enable them to see the goodness of the Lord in their lives. Many times when you are sick and in miserable condition and you pray to the Lord and the Lord would heal you, when you receive the healing, this is especially when it happen after a period of time, you might think that the doctor that you visit and the medicine or the advice that you receive is the reason for healing. But you are mistaken; God may use doctor or medicine but He is the source of healing. The Lord is the source of everything, not only healing, but peace, joy, provision, deliverance, salvation, solution for problems and relief in times of troubles.

**2. He repented:** **“turned back,”** the Lord told the ten leprous to, **“Go shew yourselves unto the priests.”** At the time of Jesus the priest was the responsible person to examine and give report about the leprous person; if he is healed he is allowed to go to inside the city and live a normal life with the people. The Bible is not telling us where the nine leprous had gone. But only one came back to the Lord. He did not go to the priest and the old religion and the wrong practices of life. Repentance is to turn back, to make U turn and move away from sin. Many when they receive the grace they will not repent but they will continue with their old religious practices. Many after they receive the grace of God they will not take a decision to repent but

they will continue to sin against the Lord. In spite of God’s grace to them they will continue to smoke, drink, doing adultery, living in immoralities, laziness, overspending, boasting, showing off, and continue in the wrong ways of life. Don’t be among such people and be glad to receive this rebuke; **“19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.” (Revelation 3:19 KJV)** The miracles that God is doing is to enforce your faith and your believe and to encourage you to go forward along with Him as we read in the book of John, **“25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.” (John 21:25 KJV)** **“30 And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: 31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.” (John 20:30-31 KJV)** God in doing a miracle in your life is calling you to walk with Him and to serve Him.

**3. Proclaiming the goodness of God:** **“and with a loud voice glorified God,”** When you receive something good from the Lord, give praise to Him and don’t be ashamed. Many they are ashamed to shout loud and to praise the Lord in a loud voice because they are ashamed of people; but the reason for their shamefulness is a pride and does not want to be scrutinized by the public who does not believe and follow Christ. Let us shout with Paul who said, **“16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. 17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.” (Romans 1:16-17)** Let us not to be ashamed to shout and to announce that we are followers of Christ and walker in His ways and servants to Him.

**4. He became God’s servant willing to submit his life and will to God:** **“And fell down on his face at his feet,”** when someone threw himself on someone else feet that means he is loyal and willing to submit himself to that person and to serve him. That man who came back to the Lord after the great miracle of God he surrender all his life to the Lord and put himself under God’s service. When the Lord would do miracle in your life, His purpose of that in you is that you will recognize His grace in your life and finally you would submit yourself to do His will and to serve Him all the days of your life. God wants you to serve Him. Don’t be like other people who use God as their shopping mall; give me that and give me that and this but they are unwilling to serve Jesus and submit their lives and will unto Him.

**5. He was grateful to the Lord:** **“giving him thanks:”** When God do great things for you don’t forget to thank Him and have gratefulness in your heart toward Him. **“18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18 KJV)** Many in spite of the great goodness of the Lord they respond with grumbling. Thank Him and don’t grumble against Him, **“10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.” (1 Corinthians 10:10 KJV)** God’s servant should be faithful to the Lord in whatever circumstance, even in suffering God is suffering also with us. So we need to go forward with the Lord and serve Him in all situations.

**My Dear and Beloved:** Don’t be opportunistic and don’t use the Lord to fulfill your own ambition and plan and after that you forget Him. Don’t do that because you are going to lose more and miss many other blessings. Be faithful and to the end so you will be fully rewarded.

Take the opportunity today to come to the Lord and to follow Him. As God had done great miracle for you then be faithful and come back to Him and serve Him. Commit your life to God and He will reward you.

**My Prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose again from the death to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that I received in this message that showed me myself and what is going in my life.*

*Let us confess and renounce our sins. Confess your unfaithfulness and ungratefulness and your disobedience and the lack of fear in God. Lord I am coming back to you, I repent and turn away from the following sins \_\_\_\_\_ toward you.*

*Lord I am willing to live my life for you to serve you.*

*Lord I humble myself down at your feet. Lord I commit myself to be faithful to you in my life, obeying your Word and commands, and not forgetting what you had done to me. Lord I commit myself to serve you and to do your will till the end of my life. Lord I commit myself to reproduce more of the fruit of the Holy Spirit, love, joy, peace, self-control, perseverance, long-suffering, patience, gentleness and kindness, that people will see Jesus in my life,*

*Lord thank you for my brethren who committed their life unto you and to the principles that we learned from this message. Lord fill them once again with the Holy Spirit and use them to go on and serve you and proclaim your Word to others.*

*Lord bless us as a church; help us to go and evangelize reaching new people and planting new Bible studies and new congregations for the church. Lord help us to fulfill the vision of the church 'Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God'. Lord bless us and 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.*

Faithfulness and Gratefulness Rewarded Part 1. Luke 17:11-19. Colossians 3:16. Hebrews 11:7. Acts 20:35. Revelation 3:19. John 21:25. John 20:30-31 Romans 1:16-17. 1 Thessalonians 5:18. 1 Corinthians 10:10.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf  
The Church Overseer  
Church of God  
United Arab Emirates  
Email: [thebread1@gmail.com](mailto:thebread1@gmail.com)  
Mobile Tel #: [00971551902647](tel:00971551902647)

Note: The Bread of Life is a weekly publication from the Church of God, United Arab Emirates. For further issues and more spiritual enrichment you can visit our web site at: [www.churchofgoduae.com](http://www.churchofgoduae.com).

Share the message with your friends.

Please share with us your view about the message and if you have any question.

If you have a prayer request, please send it to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: [thebread1@gmail.com](mailto:thebread1@gmail.com).

Please send your tithes, your first fruit, and your various offerings to the church to this account

BANK NAME:

First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)

ACCOUNT NAME:

RAMIZ BAHNAM ABBO KHALAF

ACCOUNT NO.:

1576003753162014

IBAN:

AE380351576003753162014

SWIFT CODE:

NBADAEEACPU

Or contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: [thebread1@gmail.com](mailto:thebread1@gmail.com).

If you need counseling in area of your life, whether about family, children or finances, please be free to contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: [thebread1@gmail.com](mailto:thebread1@gmail.com).