

King and Messiah Week 14

Read Matthew 8:1-4

By taking on flesh, Jesus entered into the midst of our mess. Touching the leper, Jesus entered into his world. What does that tell us about Jesus? How is this an example for the role of the believer in this world?

How does the leper demonstrate faith, not just in Jesus' power, but also His will? How can our belief in God's power cause our hearts to harden if not also anchored by a belief in the goodness of His will?

How can we hold fast to the truth of God's goodness in the midst of pain and hardship?

Read Matthew 8:5-13

What does this miracle story teach us about faith? What truths from chapters 5-7 are echoed in this passage?

Read Matthew 8:14-17

Look at the three people healed so far in chapter 8. What stands out about them?

Matthew paraphrases Isaiah 53:4 in verse 17. Read Isaiah 53:4-6 and Revelation 21:4. How do Jesus' miracles ultimately all end up pointing to his ultimate purpose?

Read Matthew 8:18-22

What do these verses teach us about Jesus' authority? What part of your life would Jesus challenge if he were speaking to you?

Read Matthew 8:23-27

Notice the disciples do not have all of their theology worked out. They are still wrestling with the truth of who Jesus is. How do we learn to live with the tension between our faith and all of our questions?

How would reminding ourselves everyday of the answer to the question in verse 27 change us?

Read Matthew 8:23-27

What's the main point of this miracle story? How do the townspeople misplace their concerns?

Other observations/questions: