

# Faithfulness and Gratefulness Rewarded

(Part 2)

<sup>41</sup> Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy<sup>[b]</sup> met him. They stood at a distance <sup>13</sup> and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!” <sup>14</sup> When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. <sup>15</sup> One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. <sup>16</sup> He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup> Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine?” <sup>18</sup> Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” <sup>19</sup> Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.” (Luke 17:11-19)

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 realization 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 20:35b) So we must understand that our relationship with our Lord is not only including receiving but giving as well.

The ten leprosy 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. He showed that as the following:

**1- He recognized the answered prayer:** “**One of them, when he saw he was healed.**” When 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 you will not recognized that. Lack of faith and faithfulness will not enable you and 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 you might think that the doctor that you visit and the medicine 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- Repented: “Came back.”** The Lord told the ten leprosy to “**Go, show yourselves to the priests.**” At the time of Jesus the priest was the responsible person to go out and check the leprosy 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 leprosy had gone. But only one he came back to the Lord. He did not go to the priest and the old religion and practices. 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 laziness and continue in the old ways of life. Don’t

be among such people; “**Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest and repent.**” (Revelation 3:19) 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 can read in the book of John, “**Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.**” (John 21:25) “**Jesus performed many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.**” (John 20:30-31)

**3- Proclaiming the goodness of God: “Praising God in a loud voice.”** 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 shameful is a pride and does not want to be scrutinize by the public who does not believe and follow Christ. Let us shout with Paul who said, “**For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.**” <sup>17</sup> For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: “**The righteous will live by faith.**” (Romans 1:16-17)

**4- He became God’s servant: “He threw himself at Jesus’ feet.”** When someone threw himself on someone else feet that means he is 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 this but they are unwilling to serve Jesus and submit their lives unto Him.

**5- He was grateful to the Lord: “and thanked him.”** When God do great things for you don’t forget to thank him and have gratefulness in your heart toward Him. “**Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.**” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) Many in spite of the great goodness of the Lord they respond with grumbling, “**And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.**” (1 Corinthians 10:10) 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:** 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 as you agree to pray.

**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 I am coming back to you, turning away from the following sins \_\_\_\_\_ toward you. Lord I humble myself down at your feet. Lord I am willing to live my life for you to serve you. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.