

(8) Leper Healed and Response Recorded (Mt. 8:1-4; Mk. 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-16)

1. The first of several lepers will find healing during this episode (Mt. 8:1-4; Mk. 1:40-45; Lk. 5:12-16).
 - a. λεπρός lepros ^{#3015}_{9x}: *leprous, affected with leprosy* (Matt. 8:2; 10:8; 11:5; 26:6; Mk. 1:40; 14:3; Lk. 4:27; 7:22; 17:12).
 - b. λέπρα lepra ^{#3014}_{4x}: *leprosy* (Matt. 8:3; Mk. 1:42; Lk. 5:12,13).
 - c. LXX has λεπρός lepros (12x) & λέπρα lepra (39x), plus λεπράω lepraō (3x) λεπρόομαι leproomai (3x) & λεπρόν lepron (1x).
 - d. טַרְעָה tsāra'ath ^{#6883}_{35x}: *leprosy*. טַרְעָה tsāra' ^{#6879}_{20x}: *to be a leper, to have leprosy*.
 - e. Lev. 13 & 14 are the primary texts for the disease of tsāra'ath.
 - f. Great article in [Unger's Bible Dictionary](#). identifying Biblical leprosy with what modern medicine terms [Hansen's disease](#).
2. The leper understood that his cleansing was dependent upon the will of God rather than the merit of man (Mt. 8:2; Mk. 1:40; Lk. 5:12).
3. Note: he asked for cleansing (καθαρίζω katharizō ^{#2511}_{31x}) rather than healing (θεραπεύω therapeuō ^{#2323}_{43x} Matt. 8:2; 10:8; 11:5; Mk. 1:40; Lk. 4:27; 5:12,13; 7:22; yet see ἰάομαι iaomai ^{#2390}_{26x} Lk. 17:14&15).
4. Jesus' miracle was instantaneous, and yet the cleansed leper was instructed to follow the Mosaic legislation (Matt. 8:4; Mk. 1:44; Lk. 5:14).
5. The cleansing of leprosy would compound the fame that Jesus gathered by His miscellaneous demon expulsions (Mk. 1:45; Lk. 5:15,16).