

## The Second Encounter

(Mark 5: 18-20; Luke 17:11-17; John 9:35-41; Mark 5: 25-34)

By His wounds we are healed (Isaiah 53: 5). Before his last ordeal of crucifixion, YAHSHUA suffered beyond human ability at the hands of Pilate's soldiers. Isaiah, many years previously to YAHSHUA coming to earth, prophesied that His appearance would be so disfigured that He would not look like a man, and His form would not resemble a human being (52:13-15). The wounds applied to Him by the Roman soldiers were not accidental neither circumstantial; they were providential; they were for the purpose of bringing healing to all our diseases. His Father would not allow one single flog to be applied to His Son that was not meant to be. Those hours, minutes and seconds were divinely watched and counted for accomplishing His will in His Son. In the time of His visitation, YAHSHUA extended His hands and healed many people. Some made an effort to encounter Him for their healing, but others were in the right place and time at the time of their visitation. The man from Gadara, for example, came to meet YAHSHUA, when He got out on land. Under the power of the demons, he cried out, fell down before Him and said in a loud voice, What do You have to do with me, YAHSHUA, You Son of the Most High? They had asked such a question, because YAHSHUA had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (Luke 8; 26-39). After his deliverance he experienced his second encounter with YAHSHUA. Grateful for his deliverance from the control of Satan, he desired now to follow YAHSHUA. But YAHSHUA knew that he would be more useful where he was. So He instructed him to tell his people what the Lord had done for him. He became a missionary by proclaiming throughout the whole city how much YAHSHUA had done for him (Luke 8:38-39). This second encounter brought him eternal life; and closed the door permanently to Satan; he was now a servant of the Lord God.

For many years a woman suffered embarrassing hemorrhaging without help from the doctors; she had spent all she had without results. After hearing about YAHSHUA, she desired to have her first encounter with Him, but not in the open, because of her physical condition. She tried to meet Him just by touching the fringe of His garment from behind. She said, "If I just touch His robes, I will be made well!" And she was healed, but not without being forced to have a second encounter with her Lord, Who after He had asked the question, Who had touched Him, and looking around to see who had done it, she responded to Him with fear and trembling and falling down before Him, she told Him the whole story. Her healing was confirmed when she confessed the truth. YAHSHUA in compassion said to her, Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace and be free from your affliction (Mark 5: 25-34). She was not only healed physically, but also spiritually in her second encounter with the Lord YAHSHUA.

In His travel to Jerusalem one day, when YAHSHUA was passing between Samaria and Galilee, ten lepers had their first encounter with Him. They raised their voices saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" It was the encounter which brought physical healing to them, as they hoped that would happen. They suffered from a chronic infectious disease that attacks the skin, tissues or nerves with deformities and wasting of body parts; a disease which separated them from society, for its contagious infection. It was a condition which robbed them of all the pleasures of living. On that first encounter, at their cry, YAHSHUA commanded them to show

themselves to the priest confirming their healing and their place in society. As they turned to do so, they were healed. But only one, seeing that he was healed, returned to have his second encounter with His Master, YAHSHUA; only one out of ten! He came back to YAHSHUA with a loud voice of praise giving glory to YAHWEH; he fell face down at YAHSHUA'S feet thanking Him. This Samaritan was justified as he made the decision to return and thank YAHSHUA. Only he received the gift of salvation, as YAHSHUA said, "Your faith has made you well"! Go on your way. The nine others missed the blessing of the spiritual healing for their indifference to the One Whose love extended beyond their healing.

As YAHSHUA was passing by He noticed a blind man from birth. This blind man did not seek his healing as did the others, but he was on the right place at the right time for a divine appointment. He was blind so that the glory of YAHWEH would be displayed in him; and not because of his or his parent's sins. From His saliva and dirt, YAHSHUA made mud and sent him to wash in the pool of Siloam. "So he left, washed, and came back seeing". It seemed impossible for someone to believe the healing of a blind man from birth, because it had never been heard before. The Israel's authorities had a hard time with this, because that was the sign of the true Messiah, and they refused to accept YAHSHUA as their Messiah. The blind man confronted them boldly refuting their words as they ridiculed him saying, "We know that God has spoken to Moses. But this man – we don't know where He is from!" To that he replied: "This is an amazing thing, you don't know where He is from, yet He opened my eyes! We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He listens to him. Throughout history no one has ever heard of someone opening the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, He wouldn't be able to do anything." The reaction of the Pharisees to this healing was mere rejection of the deity of YAHSHUA'S Messianic credentials. YAHSHUA came to him for the second encounter and affirmed His deity to him. He asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, Who is He, Sir that I may believe in Him?" YAHSHUA answered, "You have seen Him; in fact He is the One speaking with you." I believe, Lord! He said, and he worshipped Him (John 9). This is an amazing encounter when privately YAHSHUA revealed Himself to him and the blind man was saved. "I believe, Lord, and he worshipped Him."

In the report of a man who suffered with a deep-seated and lingering disorder for thirty-eight years, YAHSHUA asked him the question, Do you want to become well?(Are you serious about getting well) In his first encounter. This question perhaps made the man wonder about the meaning of it, when it was obvious in his condition. But perhaps the Lord was challenging him with this question concerning his spiritual life. He well knew who that man was; and He was offering him healing beyond his physical healing. On the second encounter, the Lord warned him by saying, See, you are well! Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you (John 5:5-15). No one knows what the end was for this man; nor if he ever accepted the Lord and had a change of heart. We do know though that he represented the Jewish nation in its state of rejection of its Messiah, when he told the authorities who the Man was Who had told him to pick his bed and walk on a Sabbath, which resulted in the persecution against YAHSHUA. That symbolized the Jewish nation betraying and handing her Messiah to the Gentile nations to be killed.

Many of us have experienced miracles of so many sorts, but we have forgotten our duty before the Lord. He has healed us for the purpose of bringing glory to His name, but we walk around as if we deserved it. If you have had your first encounter with Him, (at the time of your healing) you must seek the second encounter for your spiritual healing; if you were delivered from demons, you must know that an empty house will soon be filled with greater number of demons. Your spiritual healing will come when you acknowledge YAHSHUA to be your Lord and Savior and have Him take control of your life. He will seal you with His Holy Spirit and from that on you will be in the position of no more condemnation before YAHWEH. The physical healing is important, yes, but the spiritual healing is of greater importance.

**THINK ABOUT IT!**