

OUR LORD'S THIRD SIGN-MIRACLE AT THE UNNAMED  
FEAST OF JOHN 5

**The man with an infirmity thirty-eight years “made whole” on the  
Day of Atonement, the Sabbath, 13<sup>th</sup> October A.D. 31**

This sign relates to the nation of Israel now restored to their land.

Our Lord's age in Bible years was now 31 years and 333 days and in solar years, 30 years and 349 days.

This number “thirty -eight” as the period of this man's infirmity at once directs our thoughts to Deuteronomy 2:14, where Moses states that “the space in which we came from Kadesh-barnea, until we were come over the brook Zered, was thirty-eight years”.

The whole wilderness period was forty years, but of these only two years were required by God for the necessary preparation of the redeemed nation to enter the Land of Promise. The thirty-eight years of wandering constitutes the penalty for their sinful unbelief in accepting the adverse report of the ten (ten out of twelve) spies sent into Canaan to search out the land.

This numerical correspondence between the period of this man's infirmity and Israel's wanderings in the Wilderness, as the direct result of their sin, enable us to know that this sign has a positively Jewish significance. The period of the wanderings of the people of Israel for thirty-eight years forms a perfect chronological type of the worldwide Dispersion of the Jewish people after the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70, following upon their rejection of their Messiah, our Lord Jesus Christ. Both “the wanderings” and Dispersion were the results of sinful unbelief.

The raising up of the impotent man in John five typifies the nation of Israel in their dispersion over the earth in A.D. 71

Our Lord made two separate contacts with this man of John five. He first made him whole so that he took up his bed and walked. Later He met him and gave him a word of most solemn in these terms (verse 14): “Behold, thou art made whole. Sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee”. Our Lord's first contact with this man, when He healed him of his infirmity, has its counterpart or antitype in the raising up again of the people of Israel to nationhood in the year 1948 at the midnight of fourteenth to fifteenth of May, which was the 3,586<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the night they crossed the Red Sea on leaving Egypt in 1639 B.C.

Who cannot detect in our Lord's words, “thou art made whole, sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee”, to be also a warning to the people of Israel of the utmost solemnity in the present hour?

From the book *The Restored Vision* by A.E. Ware.