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GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD
FOR HE IS GOOD

EXTRAVAGANT *Thanks*

HIS LOVE
ENDURES FOREVER

November 22 & 23, 2025 | Thanksgiving | Luke 17:11-19 | Dennis Miller, teaching pastor

THE SCRIPTURE

Luke 17:11 On the way to Jerusalem he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee. 12 And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance 13 and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." 14 When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed. 15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; 16 and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. 17 Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

THE CONTEXT OF THIS EVENT

1. The **TIMING** — *On the way to Jerusalem . . .*

This event takes place in the **LAST** months of Jesus' life.

— Jesus was in Jerusalem a few months **EARLIER** (October) for the Feast of Tabernacles (John 7-8).

— Then He attended the Feast of **DEDICATION** (Hanukkah in December) in Jerusalem and brought Lazarus back from the **DEAD** (John 9-11).

— Now He goes to Jerusalem one **LAST** time (Feast of Passover) to **DIE** for the sin of the world.

Luke 9:51 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.

2. The **LOCATION** — *between Samaria and Galilee* (Ephraim).

Luke 17:11 . . . he was passing along between Samaria and Galilee.

3. The MIRACLES of Jesus — 26 are recorded in the Gospel of Luke, but on this trip to Jerusalem (beginning in Luke 9:51) Jesus did 5 miracles. This is a reminder of His MERCY!

- A mute man — Luke 11:14-15
- A crippled woman — Luke 13:10-17
- A man with dropsy — Luke 14:1-6
- Ten lepers — Luke 17:11-19
- Two blind men — Luke 18:35-43

4. The horrible disease of LEPROSY — white patches, sores, loss of feeling, tumors, loss of extremities, blindness, loss of voice, no hope, death. Because leprosy was so contagious, anyone diagnosed with it was removed from society (homes, families) and usually lived with other lepers. (Since 1982 . . .)

- Leprosy was somewhat COMMON in Israel.
Luke 4:27 And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian."
- God used leprosy as DISCIPLINE — Naaman, Uzziah

THE PLEA OF TEN LEPERS

Luke 17:12 And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance 13 and lifted up their voices, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us." 14 When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed.

1. We learn MUCH about these lepers from these few verses.

<i>he was met</i>	12	They were WAITING.	EXPECTANT
<i>by ten lepers</i>	12	They stayed TOGETHER.	UNSELFISH
<i>stood at a distance</i>	12	They knew the RULES.	RESPECTFUL
<i>lifted up their voices</i>	13	They were BOLD.	UNASHAMED
<i>Jesus,</i>	13	They used His NAME.	PERSONAL
<i>Master (Epistatēs)</i>	13	They used His TITLE.	WORSHIPFUL
<i>have mercy on us</i>	13	They recognized their NEED.	REALISTIC
<i>And as they went</i>	14	They followed DIRECTIONS.	OBEDIENT

2. These ten did just about everything CORRECTLY!

THE POWER OF JESUS

Luke 17:14 When he saw them he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went they were cleansed.

1. Even with His own personal SORROW before Him, Jesus saw the lepers and showed COMPASSION.
2. He gave them CLEAR and Biblical instructions.

Luke 5:14 And he charged him to tell no one, but "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to them." (Leviticus 14 explains this process)

3. *They were cleansed* — think of the SIMPLICITY and yet the POWER of this moment!

THE PRAISE FROM ONE LEPER

Luke 17:15 Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; 16 and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan.

1. All of the lepers were HEALED, but one responded uniquely.
2. His thankfulness was EXTRAVAGANT!
 - He SAW that he was healed.
 - He turned BACK (this is big!).
 - He praised God with a LOUD voice.
 - He fell FACE-FIRST before Jesus (deity).
 - He gave THANKS.

3. And he, a Samaritan, was one from whom you would have LEAST expected this response.

THE PERSPECTIVE OF JESUS

Luke 17:17 Then Jesus answered, "Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? 18 Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19 And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."

1. Jesus asked THREE rhetorical questions:
 - *Were not ten cleansed?* — YES
 - *Where are the nine?* — Not PRESENT
 - *Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?* NO
2. Jesus AFFIRMED this former leper for his actions!

SO THEN . . .

How will you show your thanks to God this week?