

John 5:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

Analysis

Jesus finds the man in the temple and warns: 'Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.' This connects sin and suffering (though not always causally—see John 9:3) and warns against returning to former ways. Physical healing should lead to spiritual transformation. The 'worse thing' may be final judgment—physical healing matters little if the soul remains sick. Jesus cares for whole persons.

Historical Context

The man's presence in the temple suggests gratitude—he went to worship. Jesus' warning indicates awareness of the man's history. While not all illness is directly caused by sin, persistent sin can have physical consequences (1 Corinthians 11:30). More importantly, physical healing without spiritual transformation misses the greater need.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What is the relationship between physical healing and spiritual transformation?
2. What 'worse thing' might come to those who experience God's mercy without repentance?

Interlinear Text

μετὰ	ταῦτα	εὕρισκει	αὐτῷ	ὁ	Ἰησοῦς	ἐν	τῷ
Afterward	G5023	findeth	him	G3588	Jesus	in	G3588
G3326		G2147	G846		G2424	G1722	
ἱερῷ	καὶ	εἶπεν	αὐτῷ	Ἴδε	ὅλης	γένηται	μηκέτι
the temple	and	said	him	G1492	whole	come	no more
G2411	G2532	G2036	G846		G5199	G1096	G3371
ἀμάρτανε	ἵνα	μὴ	χειρόν	τι	σοί	γένηται	
sin	G2443	G3361	a worse thing	G5100	unto thee	come	
G264			G5501		G4671	G1096	

Additional Cross-References

John 8:11 (Sin): She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.

Psalms 118:18 (Parallel theme): The LORD hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death.

Nehemiah 9:28 (Parallel theme): But after they had rest, they did evil again before thee: therefore leftest thou them in the hand of their enemies, so that they had the dominion over them: yet when they returned, and cried unto thee, thou heardest them from heaven; and many times didst thou deliver them according to thy mercies;

Matthew 12:45 (Parallel theme): Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the

last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

Leviticus 26:27 (Parallel theme): And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me;

Isaiah 38:20 (Sin): The LORD was ready to save me: therefore we will sing my songs to the stringed instruments all the days of our life in the house of the LORD.

Psalms 27:6 (Sin): And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

Mark 2:5 (Sin): When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

John 5:5 (Parallel theme): And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.

2 Chronicles 28:22 (Parallel theme): And in the time of his distress did he trespass yet more against the LORD: this is that king Ahaz.