

John 5:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.

Analysis

The man responds with excuses: 'Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.' He explains why the pool hasn't healed him—no helper, too slow. His answer reveals he's still looking to the pool, not to Jesus. His hope is in the water; his problem is competition. Jesus will bypass the pool entirely, showing He needs no such mechanism.

Historical Context

The answer reveals the man's worldview: healing depends on the pool, timing, and human assistance. He lacks all three. Jesus' healing won't require any of them—not the pool's water, not the water's movement, not human help. Grace transcends religious mechanisms.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do we sometimes focus on religious mechanisms while missing Christ's direct power?
2. What excuses keep people from experiencing Christ's healing?

Interlinear Text

ἀπεκρίθη αὐτῷ ὁ ἀσθενῶν Κύριε ἄνθρωπον οὐκ
answered him G3588 The impotent man Sir man no
G611 G846 G770 G2962 G444 G3756

ἔχω ἵνα ὅταν ταραχθῇ τὸ ὕδωρ βάλλῃ με εἰς τὴν
I have to when is troubled G3588 the water put me into G3588
G2192 G2443 G3752 G5015 G5204 G906 G3165 G1519

κολυμβήθραν· ἐν ὧ δὲ ἔρχομαι ἐγὼ ἄλλος πρὸ^τ
the pool while G3739 but am coming I another before G4253
G2861 G1722 G1161 G2064 G1473 G243

ἔμοῦ καταβαίνει
me steppeth down
G1700 G2597

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 72:12 (Parallel theme): For he shall deliver the needy when he crieth; the poor also, and him that hath no helper.

Deuteronomy 32:36 (Parallel theme): For the LORD shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up, or left.

1 Corinthians 9:24 (Parallel theme): Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

Psalms 142:4 (Parallel theme): I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me: refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul.

Romans 5:6 (Parallel theme): For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

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