

Most believers are familiar with the healing of the leper in Matthew 8. It is a beautiful account of God's willingness to touch and heal the sick, no matter how unclean they may be. Whenever we doubt God's willingness to heal us, we should listen to the words of Jesus again: "I am willing; be cleansed." He is the same yesterday, today and forever!

Since the Bible is clear about God's willingness to heal, why do we still have problems with our health? Why do we still experience symptoms in our bodies? The answer is found in what Jesus told the leper to do next. He told him to go and show himself to the priest. (Matthew 8:4) This was the law then for lepers who were healed. (Leviticus 14:2-3) He was required to hear the priest pronounce the word "clean" over him. (Leviticus 14:7) You see, as believers, when we received Jesus, His blood cleansed us from sin as well as sickness. (Isaiah 53:4-5) However, we keep hearing people pronounce sin, sickness, poverty and death over us. We keep hearing people tell us that we are unclean, undeserving, poor, weak, and that it is only natural that we grow old and sickly, and die.

God is waiting for a priesthood that will rise up and pronounce His people clean! Who are the priests today? You are one! In fact, we have more authority to pronounce good things than the Levitical priests of the Old Testament. They were just priests, but we are *king-priests* by the blood of Jesus! (Revelation 1:5-6) Where the word of the king is, there is power (Ecclesiastes 8:4), and by the word of a priest, every controversy and every assault shall be settled. (Deuteronomy 21:5) God has cleansed you, so pronounce yourself clean! Right now, pronounce good things over yourself. Say, "I pronounce myself clean, righteous, healed, whole and abundantly supplied by the blood of Jesus!" By your word as a king-priest, every assault against you shall be settled!

Matthew 8:3 "Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." Immediately his leprosy was cleansed."