

THE NEED OF THE IMPOTENT—LIFE'S ENLIVENING

Message 2

John 5:1-9 After these things there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² Now there is in Jerusalem near the sheepgate a pool, which is called in Hebrew Bethesda, having five porticoes. ³ In these lay a multitude of those who were sick, blind, lame, and withered, waiting for the moving of the water. ⁴ For an angel went down from time to time in the pool and stirred up the water; the first then to step in after the stirring up of the water was made well of whatever disease he was being held by. ⁵ And a certain man was there, who had been thirty-eight years in his sickness. ⁶ When Jesus saw this one lying there and knew that he had already been a long time in that condition, He said to him, Do you want to get well? ⁷ The sick man answered Him, Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me. ⁸ Jesus said to him, Rise, take up your mat and walk. ⁹ And immediately the man became well, and he took up his mat and walked. Now it was the Sabbath on that day

I. The Inadequacy of the Law Keeping Religion

A. The Law Only Making Demands but Not Being Able to Give Life

Galatians 3:21 ...For if a law had been given which was able to give life, righteousness would have indeed been of law.

B. The Impossibility to Keep the Law Due to Our Impotence and Deadness

Romans 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh...

II. The Sufficiency of the Son's Life Giving

John 5:21 For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom He wills.

A. Enlivened by the Voice of the Living Son of God

John 5:24-25 Truly, truly, I say to you, He who hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life, and does not come into judgment but has passed out of death into life. ²⁵ Truly, truly, I say to you, An hour is coming, and it is now, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

B. Coming to Him in the Word to Hear His Voice and Receive Life

John 5:39-40 You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is these that testify concerning Me. ⁴⁰ Yet you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.