

Restoring the Power to Heal

World Day of the Sick 2019

By Father Marcus Milless, Curatio's Chaplain

Well, thank you all for coming. It's such a joy to be with all of you, who care for the sick and suffering and also those who are sick. It's a great act of humility that you're here, and we know that the Holy Spirit is moving and that the healing work is here in this room and most especially through the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. So let's begin with prayer.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Heavenly Father, we praise and thank You for this day. We thank You for the gift of our lives. We ask that You continue to sanctify us and help us draw closer to You, and we ask all of this in Your Most Holy Name, Lord Jesus. Amen. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Well, this morning's talk is simple. It's Restoring the Power to Heal, and those are Biblical words. The inspiration for the title of this talk came from the Basilica. There's a stained glass window in the back of the Basilica of Our Lady, and underneath it says, "And the power was with Him to heal." I thought, "Where the heck does that come from?" and so I looked up the Scripture reference. It's from Luke's Gospel, and it's from the story of

the healing of the paralytic. Before Jesus even heals the paralytic, it says the power of the Lord was with Him to heal, and what's so beautiful about that is it shows that Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man, and if you look at the sequence of that Gospel - first what Jesus does before He heals the crippled man. He is with his apostles whom He just called. This is in Luke chapter 5, verse 12 and following. He first goes out to heal the leper, and it says this: "While he was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy, and when he saw Jesus he fell on his face and begged Him, "Lord, if You will, You can make me clean." And He stretched out His hand and touched him saying, "I will. Be clean," and immediately the leprosy left him.

Now what's striking is what happens next. Do they continue on? No. What happens is that "so much more the report went abroad concerning him and the great multitudes gathered to hear and be healed of their infirmities." So the crowds were gathering, they heard the Word, they wanted healing, and what does Jesus do? He withdrew to the wilderness and prayed. He withdrew and prayed. Power went forth from him. We heard that in the Scripture this last week - the woman who was hemorrhaging touched Jesus and power went forth from Him. Power went forth from Jesus. And we see power went forth when He healed the leper, but that power needed to be restored. And Jesus Himself, the Son of God, went to the wilderness and prayed...

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