

Lev 13:2-3

When a man has on the skin of his body a swelling, a scab, or a bright spot, and it becomes on the skin of his body like a leprous sore, then he shall be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons the priests. The priest shall examine the sore on the skin of the body; and if the hair on the sore has turned white, and the sore appears to be deeper than the skin of his body, it is a leprous sore. Then the priest shall examine him, and pronounce him unclean.

If you have read one, or all of the four gospels, then you have read of how Jesus healed many lepers. But one thing we seem to forget is that the priests knew that each person that Jesus healed was a leper. How do we know that? It's based upon today's devotional verses that tell how the priests are supposed to deem a leper clean or unclean. So the priests would have looked at this person, possibly many years ago, and declared that he or she was unclean and a leper.

But then Jesus comes along and heals them. So what are they to do after Jesus does heal them? Well the book of Leviticus also gives instructions on what they are to do.

† **Lev 13:16-17** *Or if the raw flesh changes and turns white again, he shall come to the priest. And the priest shall examine him; and indeed if the sore has turned white, then the priest shall pronounce him clean who has the sore. He is clean.*

According to God's law, they were to present themselves to the priests, who would examine him or her and declare that they are now clean, or as we know it as they are healed.

The priest had seen this miracle many times during Jesus' three years of ministry. They saw those who they had previously had declared as unclean or lepers, and they would now have to declare them as clean, which would mean that they confirmed that Jesus healed them. Yet even though they seen this miracle many times in these three years, still they refused to believe in Jesus.

Sometimes we hope that a miracle would happen so that someone like a friend or relative would believe in Jesus. Well, if they knew you before you were a Christian, and they have seen the change in you, isn't that a miracle! I know for me that these changes in my life have been a miracle, and I'm sure you feel the same way about what the Lord has done in your life to. Yet in many cases it's not a matter of someone seeing a miracle that would cause them to believe in Jesus.

† **John 20:29** *Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*

As we saw with the religious leaders of Jesus time, it wasn't miracles that caused people to believe, but rather the fulfillment of scripture, which Jesus proclaimed, *which testify of Me.*

So most times it's God's word that will cause others to believe in Jesus.

† **John 5:39** *You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.*

So no longer pray that others will see a miracle, but rather that their eyes would be open to the truth of God's word.

† **Isaiah 42:6-7** *I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, and will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, as a light to the Gentiles, to open blind eyes, to bring out prisoners from the prison, those who sit in darkness from the prison house.*