

SPIRITUAL DEFECTS #5 “Broken Feet and Hands”

Lev 21:16-19

Series: Lev 21:16-24 Those not to minister in the temple - physical defects. Physical of the OT is the spiritual of the NT. things that will hinder us from ministering as men of God. Today: Broken Feet & Hands.

I. BROKEN FEET

A. The great need in life is faithful men

1. *2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.*

a. *Faithful = Trustworthy, reliable...able to place confidence in*

2. **Work that needs to be done:** In the church/ministry/working with people/pastoral work

3. **A life that needs to be believable:** The root word of faithful is believable (Credibility)

a. People will follow/model their life after/give time & \$ - because they believe in a man

B. The great problem in life is unfaithful men: *V19 broken foot...*

1. *Proverbs 25:19 Confidence in an unfaithful man in time of trouble Is like a bad tooth and a foot out of joint.*

a. *Bad tooth: Can't even eat...not able to sustain yourself*

b. *Foot out of joint/broken: Let you down – will collapse when you put pressure; No progress*

1. Times of pressure/when you need the most – they will let you down!

2. This affects people and the work of God powerfully

a. **Work doesn't get done** b. **No credibility:** *Talk is cheap!* Can't get wife or other people to follow

c. **Destiny is never fulfilled:** So many men have great potential – but they are unfaithful

C. The common mistake of disciples is trying to be ‘powerful’ without being faithful

1. *I will be Smith Wigglesworth – by tonight! Pray 10 hours/read 10 hours...but not faithful!*

a. *1 Corinthians 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.*

II. BROKEN HANDS

A. Men get excited/motivated – they want to help/they want to fulfill their destiny

1. They are tremendous at starting...but not at finishing

a. You never see anything come of their good intentions – or the efforts they do put forth

1. *Spiritual ADD: I'm going to do a work for God...hey, look at the pretty flowers!*

B. *V19 broken hands:* They can't keep holding on

1. Not able to stay focused in order to follow through until completion – so the original task/idea slips away

a. *1 Kings 20.40 NLT But while I was busy doing something else, the prisoner disappeared!" "Well, it's your own fault," the king replied. "You have brought the judgment on yourself."*

2. Busy people can be lazy people: Always doing but never doing something to the end

a. they start doing something good/right – but they get distracted & wind up doing something else

C. This is another manifestation of faithfulness

1. Need to hang on for long haul

a. *2 Sam. 23.10 but Eleazar stood his ground and struck down the Philistines till his hand grew tired and froze to the sword.*

1. Stay attached to your task until the job is done!

2. Emotions have to be overcome: I don't feel excited anymore/I feel unrewarded/I'm tired/bored

a. This is a true test of manhood *1 Corinthians 16:13 Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong.*

III. THE BAN ON LAZINESS

A. Having broken feet/hands means you can't work

1. God is banning lazy disciples/lazy Pastors! *V19 a man with a broken foot or hand ...*

a. *Prov 12:27 A lazy man won't even dress the game he gets while hunting... Emotion/stirring: But no follow-through*

2. Consequences: Work doesn't get done & credibility is damaged

B. 3 truths about ministry and work:

1. **Ministry is hard work!** Bible word – laborers/workers!

a. *That's why men were called who were working!*

2. **Ministry involves unpleasant tasks:** Much of ministry is not enjoyable or rewarding

a. *Counseling people who won't do what you say! b. Refereeing fights c. Playing detective*

3. **Ministry requires hard work at unpleasant tasks over the long term**

a. We don't mind hard work/boring/no reward for a few minutes – just don't let it go on!

C. Good news: God can heal broken Feet & Hands!

1. *Matthew 21:14 Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them.*

a. Being healed is the springboard to ministry – and effectiveness in all of life