

CHRIST, GIVER OF LIFE

Intro--Desire of all men to have life as long as possible. Fountain of youth. *Take to pool of Bethesda. DO I then give healing*

I. DEMONSTRATION OF LIFE-GIVING POWER

A. The Circumstances of the demon, 5:1-5.

1. A feast, 1. Prob Purim (del of Jews from Haman). X there. Today here in service.
2. A pool, 2. Sheep gate on east. Near modern gate of St Stephen Cloisters or covered porches to shelter sick.
3. A man, 3a, 5. 3b, 4 interpolation. Among blind, 2 Cor 4:4; lame, Gal. 5:16; ^{John 2:2} withered, Rom 5:6. He was hopeless (or wouldn't be there) and helpless, and that a long time. Sick 38 yrs. He was a sinner, 14.

B. The Condition for the demonstrtn. 5:6-7.

1. Negatively, 7. Prob mineral pool disturbed at times by spring. Pool favored strongest. Man looked to human means, flesh. X saves weak.

Man had faith - in pool; needed to direct it to a Person.

2. Positively, 6b. Will you?
X didn't offer crutches or even
helping hand. Offered complete
healing on basis of faith.

Foolish ques. except that stems self-will of heart. Must come X's way.

C. The Conclusion of the demonstratn, 5:8-9.

X spoke. Complete restoration
(whole), no thot of relapse (take
up pallet), no help (walk, do not
expect to be carried emphasises
completeness of restoration.

But unorthodox bec on Sabbath.

Apply to being saved outside ch
without preacher etc.

II. THE DECLARATION OF LIFE-GIVING POWER; 5:24-30.

Listen to one who did the miracle.

A. He gives spiritual life, 24-7.

Condition, 24, necessity, 25
(spiritually dead), source, 26;
warning, 27.

B. Physical life, 28-30. Res unto
life and unto damnation.

Conclusion--will you.