

Lame Excuses

John 5:1-18 (MEV) After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, which in Hebrew is called Bethesda, having five porches. ³ In these lay a great crowd of invalids, blind, lame, and paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. ⁴ For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water. After the stirring of the water, whoever stepped in first was healed of whatever disease he had. ⁵ A certain man was there who had an illness for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he had been in that condition now a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" ⁷ The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred. But while I am coming, another steps down before me." ⁸ Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." ⁹ Immediately the man was healed, took up his bed, and walked. That day was the Sabbath. ¹⁰ The Jews therefore said to him who was cured, "It is the Sabbath day. It is not lawful for you to carry your bed." ¹¹ He answered them, "He who healed me said to me, 'Take up your bed and walk.'" ¹² So they asked him, "Who is the Man who said to you, 'Take up your bed and walk'?" ¹³ Now the man who was healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had withdrawn, as there was a crowd in that place. ¹⁴ Afterward Jesus found him in the temple, and said to him, "See, you have become whole. Sin no more lest something worse happens to you." ¹⁵ The man departed and told the Jews that it was Jesus who had healed him. ¹⁶ So the Jews persecuted Jesus and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath day. ¹⁷ Jesus answered them, "My Father is working still, and I am working." ¹⁸ So the Jews sought even more to kill Him, because He not only had broken the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.

- ✓ Excuses are reasons not to _____.
- ✓ God's ways are never in opposition to _____.
- ✓ We miss the point when we don't know the _____ for the what.

John 5:39-40 (MEV) You search the Scriptures, because you think in them you have eternal life. These are they who bear witness of Me. ⁴⁰ Yet you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

John 5:46-47 (MEV) "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote of Me. ⁴⁷ But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"

- ✓ Life comes from _____ not law.
- ✓ What excuses do we make not to _____?