



Sermon Notes — Pastor Thomas Keys, SRMBC

The Hope Of Easter III — A Straight –Up Praise (Bent But not Broken) Scriptures: Luke 13:10 – 17

INTRODUCTION

Do you remember the show “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition” – hosted by Ty Pendleton? The show featured a family that was down on their luck and living in a substandard house. During the family’s vacation, an army of volunteers would rebuild the house totally changing things for the better. When Ty and crowd shouted, “Move That Bus!” the renovated house would be revealed to the extreme praise and joy of the everyone

And beloved, when we come to God with our pain, issues and brokenness the Lord He does an “Extreme Makeover” in our lives and souls and that motivates us to give Him praise! Whatever troubles we are facing, as long as we have Jesus, we can rejoice. We may be bent but we ain’t breaking...

SERMON POINTS

Here we are in chapter 13, Jesus as is His custom in these days, is in the Synagogue teaching. While Jesus is teaching, a woman – bent over by a spirit of affliction for over 18 years comes into the service. Jesus sees her, calls her, touches her and heals her. Receiving healing, her 1st response is to give God praise! But the religious puffed up folks get mad, because Jesus, the Son of God breaks their traditions and healed on the Sabbath.

So, what I want to is this message, is to look at the this example of this woman and see the **Object**, the **Outcome** and the **Overflow** of her praise – so that we can give Jesus praise and demonstrate that we may be bent – but we are not broken.

I. The Object of Praise (vv. 11)

- ♦ **Press Toward The Object** – Again note that this woman pressed past pain, discomfort because the coming to be before the Object of Her praise was more important than whatever she’s currently going through. If you love the Lord that saved you, healed you, feeds you, protects you – press toward Him. The Bible says in James 4:8, that if you draw close to Him – He will draw close to you...

- ♦ **Press Over Oppression** – Note that the text says that it was a spirit of infirmity that made this woman bent over. In other words, the reason she was in the state she was in – was an attack from the enemy of our souls – that was trying to keep her from praising her God. But this woman had the faith to give the Lord Jesus a straight – up even though she was being bent over by an evil spirit of the enemy. Sometimes you just got to praise the Lord in the midst of a virus, a stock market crash, when there’s no sports on TV. I will bless the Lord at all times His praise shall continually be in...
- ♦ **Press Despite Opinions** – Now I know that some of you may not come to church because you may not have something nice to wear, or because of the sin of your past (a divorce, your prison record, a child out of wedlock). You might even be apprehensive of the opinions of people. But look at this woman, bent over for 18 years, but she doesn’t care what people think “I am coming to praise the Lord no matter what...” You’ve this before, nobody around you has a heaven or hell to put you in – so press your way to Jesus to object of your Salvation and your praise.

II. The Overflow of Praise (vv. 12 – 13)

- ♦ **Recognition Of Christ** - Note that Jesus in the midst of His preaching and teaching, stops when He sees this bent over woman coming into the Synagogue to praise the Lord. O, beloved somebody needs to know today, even in your pain and in your struggles – Jesus sees you. In the OT He is called Jehovah – Roi the God who sees. O what comfort to know that when we praise Him and worship Him, all through the day the Lord knows me and sees me...
- ♦ **Reception From Christ** - After Jesus sees the bent over woman – he calls her, He blesses her, He touched her, and He healed her. O beloved, I need to let you know that when we praise the Lord no matter what state we are in – it is received by Jesus and we receive a blessing. I am not suggesting that we praise Him only to get something, but I am saying that when we praise Him we touch heaven, and then heaven touches us– with peace, joy, forgiveness, healing for the Lord Himself inhabits the praises of His people (Psalm 22:3) – and in His presence there is fullness of joy at His right hand, there are pleasures (Psalm 16:11) ...

- ◆ **Rejoicing in Christ** - As the woman was touched by the Lord, she who came in bent was made straight and immediately praised God. O man, I feel like praising and shouting right here. Because of what the Lord has personally done for her – after He straightened somethings out in her life – she gave God all the honor, glory and praise. Can I ask you a question? Has Jesus ever straightened out something in your life - even something that you twisted up yourself? O, He straightened out my sinful lifestyle and brought me into His family through His blood. If Jesus has straightened out something in your life – take a moment and give Him some praise.

III. The Outcome of Praise (vv. 14 – 17)

- ◆ **Opposition From Enemies Of Praise (v.14)** – Note that after the woman is healed and give Jesus the praise – the ruler of the Synagogue/the Pastor gets upset – because the healing came on the sabbath. He even says she should have come on another day. And sometimes we get upset when the things Jesus wants to do – go against our traditions, bylaws, or our preferences. Pastors need to remember as we all need to remember that this church and every church headed by the Lord Jesus and He will do whatsoever he pleases. Have thine own way Lord – in my heart, in my life, and this church.
- ◆ **Overcoming The Enemies Of Praise (vv. 15 – 17a)** I love how Jesus points out the hypocrisy of the ruler of the Synagogue – saying that if your animal was hungry or thirsty on the Sabbath you would loose them and feed and water them. How much more should this woman, a child of God, bound for 18 years, be freed on the Sabbath. How we need to hear this in the U.S. – a place where we have been blessed yet we care about things more than we do about people. Jesus gives the enemies of His praise, – the Living Word that silences them and puts them to shame. O beloved when we preach, sing and pray the Word – the devil can't stand it and has to flee.
- ◆ **Ovation/Celebration in Praise (17b)** – The bent-over woman healed, the enemies of God silenced and the all people in the church erupted with praise for all the things the Lord has done. Now, listen if we take time to focus more on all of who God is and all He has done and less on the issues – we can celebrate like the prophets Kool and the Gang sang – there's a party going on right here a celebration to last throughout the year... so bring good times and laughter too. We're going to celebrate and praise Jesus with you... Celebrate!

THERE is a story of a dog that loved its master. The master was just a little teenage boy, but this dog was full of joy and his tail wagging all the time. When the boy went to bed, the dog jumped up on the bed and lay right beside him. When it was time for breakfast, the boy would get up to get ready to go to school, the dog would jump up, follow him around until it was time to turn in for the night. At this point, he would jump back up on the bed and go through the whole process the next day and the next, day in and day out, always wagging its tail.

How can a dog do that day in and day out for his little teenage master? Because when the boy found the dog, it was wandering the street. It was a mangy, unkempt mutt. If that dog had ever been caught, it surely would not have been adopted but destroyed. instead However, this boy found that wandering, mangy dog, took it home, washed it, bathed it, resuscitated it, fed it, and best of all loved it. It became apparent from the dog's tail that the dog never forgot it.

- Some of us were wandering on a street called sin. We were just mangy sinners—And Jesus found you
- Washed you. Loved you, healed you Forgave you and paid the Price for you on the Cross.
- And my only question is this: where would you be if He hadn't found you?
- And since He found us – Let's show our Gratitude by living a life of worship and praise!

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

- ◆ When do you find it the most difficult to make your way to Church?
- ◆ How does the presence of Jesus help in getting through those obstacles?
- ◆ What are some things that the Lord has done in your life can you reflect on to help you maintain an attitude of praise?
- ◆ Who in your life do you know that is "bent over" that could use some lifting in their spirt? Ask the Lord to show you ways to be a blessing to them.