

are to confess with the mouth. There may be much secrecy in seeking Christ. I do not reprove such secrecy. Sometimes those may be most in earnest who say least about it; but when we have found him—when we have been healed by him—when we have been saved by him—there should be no more hesitation about confessing it; we are to acknowledge it, to join his people, to identify ourselves with his kingdom. We are to tell to others what a Saviour we have found as the woman did now. Oh yes, she did now thankfully what she hesitated about before. She fell down before him in thankfulness and confessed before them all what great things he had done for her. With what joy she would have ministered to him of her substance if she had any left, and with what devotion she would follow him in the way and listen to his words. Beautiful illustration this of the way in which Jesus the good physician heals the soul and saves the sick. Thy faith hath saved thee, go in peace.

Now we may gather from this miracle these three lessons; first, that as sinners we are in a state of helpless incurability; secondly, that Christ is the only Saviour; thirdly, that we are to be saved by laying hold on Christ. I need not detain you long on these points; they are so obvious and so clear. We, like that poor woman, are sinners—diseased beyond cure—none can cure us save the Lord Jesus Christ. Our works cannot save us. We are constantly preaching this truth, and yet how many there are who seem as if they could not receive it, and are imagining that their works can help them. How many there are who say, I have lived a bad life, it is true, but I will try to do better for the future, and I hope my amended life will recommend me to God by and by. It is something like this—if you owed a hundred pounds—a hundred dollars, say, at a store, and could not pay one cent, and then you were to say, well, I will do my utmost, I will pay for everything I get there; you go for several days to that store and pay a cent or two every day for something you get, and then you say to the person who keeps it, I don't owe you anything now. "Why not?" Have not I paid for everything I have got? "Yes, but you have got what you paid for." Now suppose we were able to do our duty every day—to obey every command of God—it would only be paying the new debt and leaving the old debt untouched. And supposing you were perfectly good and holy every day, your old life would still remain. We can never pay the old debt; we are always adding to it. We can never cure the old disease—it is always getting worse. Christ is the only Saviour, the only physician. "Neither is there salvation in any other." That is one great truth taught here.

And then there is this great truth. We are to be saved by applying to him. As this poor woman came to him for the healing of her body, we are to come for the healing of the soul, and the answer to the question, what shall I do to be saved? is simply this—Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved. Some persons might wish us to say something else, but we have nothing else to say. It is the old story, eighteen hundred years old—we have found nothing else. Still it is, trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and