



Midweek Meditation



*"When He saw them He said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them...turned back...and he fell on his face at Jesus' feet...now he was a Samaritan."
Luke 17:14-16*

All ten lepers were thankful that Jesus cleansed them of their disease. Do you suppose any of them were thankful for having had the disease of leprosy? At least one that we know of. Had the Samaritan leper made a Thanksgiving Day list, he surely would have written: "I'm thankful that I had leprosy. For had I not had this dread disease, I would not have met Jesus. I would not have felt His power in healing my sick and dying body. I would not have fallen on my face at His feet and heard His wonderful words, 'Go your way; your faith has saved you.'"

The Apostle Paul in his thanksgiving list, mentions his weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities...*"for when I am weak, then I am strong...the power of Christ is made perfect in weakness"* (2 Cor. 12). To this the Samaritan leper would have said, "Amen! I didn't know Christ; His power, love, and mercy, until I became weak with leprosy."

What is your leprosy? What is it that God has laid upon you to make you weak so that His grace finds you in your weakness? Whatever it is, maybe you should consider adding it to the list of things for which you are thankful.

*Grant, O Lord, that I rejoice in my sufferings (Rom. 5:3), and give thanks not just for good health and success, but also for those gifts from Your hand which make me weak; for when I am weak, You are my strength.
Amen.*