
What does his healing tell us about Jesus?

Matthew 8:1-17

Steve Walton

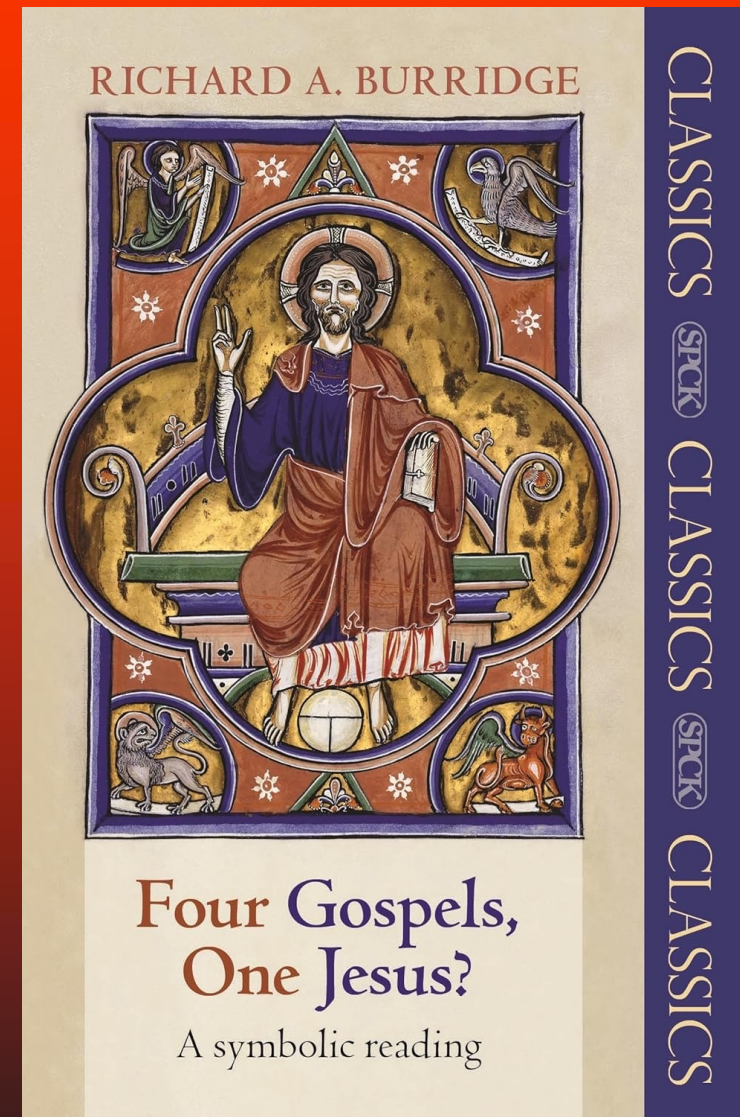
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WHAT DOES HIS HEALING TELL US ABOUT JESUS?

THE GOSPELS...

- ▶ ...are books about **Jesus**
 - ▶ ask what we learn about **Jesus**
 - ▶ ask what we learn about **what it means to follow Jesus**



CONTEXT

- ▶ A key echo
 - ▶ 'Jesus went throughout Galilee, **teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness** among the people.'
(4:23)
 - ▶ 'Then Jesus went through all the towns and villages, **teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness.**'
(9:35)

WHAT DOES HIS HEALING TELL US ABOUT JESUS?

CONTEXT

- ▶ Matthew 5–7 teaching and proclaiming
- ▶ Matthew 8–9 curing disease and sickness

CONTEXT

- ▶ Jesus' great sermon in Matthew 5–7
 - ▶ Jesus' authority as teacher
 - ▶ 'I say to you' 13x in Matthew 5–6
 - ▶ 7:21 'Not everyone who says to me, "Lord, Lord" ...'
 - ▶ 7:23 Jesus as the one who judges
 - ▶ 7:24-26 the words of Jesus to be practised
 - ▶ 7:29 'he taught them as one having authority'

REPEATED THEMES

- ▶ Jesus' authority in 8–9 — nine healings
 - ▶ two demonised people 8:29–9:1; 9:32–34
 - ▶ 'all the sick' 8:16
 - ▶ stilling of the storm 8:23–27

REPEATED THEMES

- ▶ Jesus' authority — key phrases
 - ▶ 8:27 'What sort of man is this?'
 - ▶ 8:29, 31 the demons recognise Jesus and fear him—thus he can tell them what to do 8:32

REPEATED THEMES

- ▶ Jesus' authority — key phrases
 - ▶ 9:6 '...that you may know that the son of man has **authority** on earth to forgive sins...
 - ▶ 9:8 'they were filled with awe and glorified God who had given such **authority** to human beings'
 - ▶ 9:33 'the crowds were amazed'
cf. 7:28 'the crowds were astounded at his teaching'

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THE MAN WITH LEPROSY 8:1-4

- ▶ kneels (worships) before Jesus v 2
- ▶ addresses Jesus as 'Lord' v 2
- ▶ recognises Jesus' power v 2
- ▶ Jesus touches the man v 3
- ▶ Jesus **himself** heals the man v 3
- ▶ Jesus sends the man to the priest (Leviticus 14:1-4)

WHAT DOES HIS HEALING TELL US ABOUT JESUS?

THE CENTURION 8:5-13

- ▶ the centurion makes a humble appeal
vv 5, 6, 8
- ▶ the centurion recognises the authority of Jesus
vv 8, 9, 10
- ▶ Jesus commends the centurion v 10

WHAT DOES HIS HEALING TELL US ABOUT JESUS?

HOW TO COME TO JESUS

- ▶ with confidence: 'Lord, if you are willing...' v 2
- ▶ with humility, recognising his authority
- ▶ feeding our understanding of Jesus and confidence in him
 - ▶ Scripture
 - ▶ worship

“ Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—**this is your true and proper worship.**

Romans 12:1

WHAT DOES HIS HEALING TELL US ABOUT JESUS?

THE OLD CAVENDISH LABORATORY



- 'Great are the works of the Lord; studied by all who take delight in them' Psalm 111:2

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THE NEW CAVENDISH LABORATORY



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 - ▶ testimony

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JESUS' AUTHORITY IN HEALING AND DELIVERANCE 8:14-17

- ▶ disease: Peter's mother in law vv 15-16 cf. v 2
- ▶ evil spirits v 16 'with a word' cf. vv 8, 13
- ▶ 'This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah, "He took our infirmities and bore our diseases."' v 17 (Isaiah 53:4)

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The healings anticipate the passion in that they begin to roll back the effects of the sins for which Jesus came to die.

Robert Gundry

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