

### **Connecting the Context**

Inclusio: Bracketing, placing similar material at beginning and end of a section to group information together

Matthew 4:23 "... *teaching in the synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.*"

[ Teaching and proclaiming – Matthew 5-7      Healing – Matthew 8-9 ]

Matthew 9:35 "... *teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction.*"

Jesus is Messiah in word: the crowds marvel at Jesus' authority to teach (7:28-29)

Jesus is Messiah in work: the crowds marvel at Jesus' authority to heal (9:33)

### **On Miracles...**

*Definition:* A miracle, broadly defined, is any action in time where the normal operation of nature is suspended by the agency of a supernatural action

*Purposes of Miracles:*

- Attestation of Jesus' divine character (John 3:2)
- Confirmation of Jesus' message and the Apostle's preaching (Hebrews 2:1-4)
- Persuasion towards belief in Jesus as Messiah (John 20:30-31)
- Fulfillment of Old Testament (Matthew 8:16-17)

### **Three Miraculous and Challenging Healings**

#### *1. Healing a Leper: Challenging Presumptions We Have of People*

- Ritually unclean, approaches Jesus with confident humility
- Status as unclean believed to be because of personal sin
- Jesus' touching the leper demonstrates His compassion and purity
- The "secrecy" is so Jesus can effectively carry out His mission

#### *2. Healing the Centurion's Servant: Challenging our Prejudices of People*

- Ethnically unclean as a gentile and outside of God's grace
- Respectful humility, confident of Jesus' authority to act with a word
- Centurion's faith in Jesus sets him apart from unbelieving Israel

#### *3. Healing of Peter's Mother-in-Law: Challenging our Paradigms with People*

- Jesus shows us to be ready to serve whoever we encounter in need
- Peter's mother-in-law shows our response to Jesus is to serve Him

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[ \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ – Matthew 5-7      \_\_\_\_\_ – Matthew 8-9 ]

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Jesus is Messiah in \_\_\_\_: the crowds marvel at Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ to teach (7:28-29)

Jesus is Messiah in \_\_\_\_: the crowds marvel at Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ to heal (9:33)

### **On Miracles...**

*Definition:* A miracle, broadly defined, is \_\_\_\_\_ in time where the \_\_\_\_\_ operation of \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ by the agency of a \_\_\_\_\_

*Purposes of Miracles:*

- \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ character (John 3:2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus' message and the \_\_\_\_\_ preaching (Hebrews 2:1-4)
- \_\_\_\_\_ towards \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus as Messiah (John 20:30-31)
- \_\_\_\_\_ of Old Testament (Matthew 8:16-17)

### **Three Miraculous and Challenging Healings**

#### *1. Healing a Leper: Challenging \_\_\_\_\_ We Have of People*

- Ritually \_\_\_\_\_, approaches Jesus with \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ as unclean believed to be because of \_\_\_\_\_
- Jesus' touching the leper demonstrates His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
- The "\_\_\_\_\_" is so Jesus can \_\_\_\_\_ carry out His mission

#### *2. Healing the Centurion's Servant: Challenging our \_\_\_\_\_ of People*

- \_\_\_\_\_ unclean as a Gentile and \_\_\_\_\_ of God's grace
- \_\_\_\_\_ humility, \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_ to act with a \_\_\_\_\_
- Centurion's \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus sets him apart from \_\_\_\_\_ Israel

#### *3. Healing of Peter's Mother-in-Law: Challenging our \_\_\_\_\_ with People*

- Jesus shows us to be ready to serve \_\_\_\_\_ we encounter in need
- Peter's mother-in-law shows our \_\_\_\_\_ to Jesus is to \_\_\_\_\_ Him