

THE MINISTRY OF THE LORD JESUS

Lesson Seven

III. The Ministry of Healing (2): Peter's Feverish Mother-in-Law (Matt. 8:14-15; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 4:38-39)

Burden to Impart:

The Lord is compassionate and sympathizes with all of our sicknesses, weaknesses and problems (Heb. 4:15). Although we may become "sick with fever" due to our hot temper or become distracted by some burning desire other than the Lord, His compassionate touch can heal us from our "fever," can "cool" us down and restore our service to Him and His disciples.

Memory Verse: And He touched her hand, and the fever left her; and she arose and ministered to them.

Matthew 8:15

Facts to Teach:

1. Shortly after beginning His ministry, the Lord performed a miraculous healing on the mother-in-law of Peter. She was lying sick in bed with a high fever in Peter (Simon) and Andrew's house. Here we can see that the Lord's salvation was not just for the young strong ones, but was for the whole family, including the older, weaker and sick ones. The Lord has come to meet **every** person's need, whether old or young, sick or strong, boy or girl.
2. The fact that this case is repeated in three of the four gospels shows that it must have been a significant event. The many healings that the Lord performed upon the sick people show us that He is very compassionate and sympathizes with all of our illnesses, weaknesses and problems (Heb. 4:15). Jesus' outstanding virtues reveal the beauty and excellence of His humanity.
3. The fact that Peter's mother-in-law had a high "fever" may signify a person's hot, unbridled and abnormal temper. Although all human beings have a temper, some are more hot-tempered than others. Whenever we are too "hot," angry or upset about anything, we are like a sick person suffering from a fever. Also, whenever we are so burningly desirous for anything other than the Lord, it is like having a fever that makes us unhealthy or even "sick" before the Lord.
4. Peter's mother-in-law was so feverish she could no longer serve her family or the Lord. Her function was gone.
5. The Lord came to the bed of this dear sick believer and rebuked the fever. She was instantly healed and immediately arose and served the Lord and His disciples.
6. Today the young people need to keep their bodies pure, strong and healthy so that they can serve the Lord Jesus. When our hearts and minds are too upset, or hot as with a fever, then our bodies can also become sick. The Lord Jesus loves us and can heal us in every part of our being so that we can love Him and serve Him.

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1. What was the matter with Peter's mother-in-law? (Matthew 8:14)
2. What did Jesus do? (Matt. 8:15)
3. After she was healed, what did she do? (Mark 1:31)
4. Why do we need to have strong spirits, healthy bodies, and healthy minds?
5. Write your memory verse below.