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By Dan Maines

## **Luke 5**

### **Luke 5:1-11**

Now it happened that while the crowd was pressing around Him and listening to the word of God, He was standing by the lake of Gennesaret; and He saw two boats lying at the edge of the lake, but the fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. And He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little distance from the land. And He sat down and began teaching the crowds from the boat. Now when He had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put

out into the deep water, and let down your nets for a catch." Simon responded and said, "Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing, but I will do as You say and let down the nets." And when they had done this, they caught a great quantity of fish, and their nets began to tear. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat, to come and help them. And they came and filled both of the boats, to the point that they were sinking. But when Simon Peter saw this, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For amazement had seized him and all his companions because of the catch of fish which they had taken; and likewise also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not fear; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

† The miraculous catch revealed Christ's authority over creation.

† Peter's confession of sin showed humility before divine holiness.

† The call to "catch people" signaled the mission of gathering disciples for the kingdom.

### **Luke 5:12-16**

While He was in one of the cities, behold, there was a man covered with leprosy; and when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged Him, saying, "Lord, if You are willing, You can make me clean." And He reached out with His hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing; be cleansed." And immediately the leprosy left him. And He ordered him to tell no one, "But go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, just as Moses commanded, as a testimony to them." But the news about Him was spreading even farther, and large crowds were gathering to hear Him and to be healed of their sicknesses. But Jesus Himself would often

slip away to the wilderness and pray.

† The healing of the leper showed Christ's power to cleanse both physically and spiritually.

† His touch crossed social and ceremonial boundaries.

† Prayer remained central to His ministry, modeling dependence on the Father.

### **Luke 5:17-26**

One day He was teaching, and there were some Pharisees and teachers of the Law sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem; and the power of the Lord was present for Him to perform healing. And some men were carrying a man on a stretcher who was paralyzed, and they were trying to bring him in and to set him down in front of Him. But not finding any way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle of the crowd, in front of Jesus. And seeing their faith, He said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven you." The scribes and the Pharisees began thinking of the implications, saying, "Who is this man who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, except God alone?" But Jesus, aware of their thoughts, responded and said to them, "Why are you thinking this way in your hearts? Which is easier, to say: 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say: 'Get up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins," He said to the paralyzed man, "I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher, and go home." And immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and went home glorifying God. And they were all struck with astonishment and began glorifying God; and they were filled with fear, saying, "We have seen remarkable things today!"

† Forgiveness of sins was the greater miracle, proving Christ's divine authority.

† The healing confirmed His claim, silencing His accusers.

† The people glorified God, though many still resisted His authority.

### **Luke 5:27-32**

After that He went out and looked at a tax collector named Levi sitting in the tax office, and He said to him, "Follow Me." And he left everything behind, and got up and began following Him. And Levi gave a big reception for Him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and other people who were reclining at the table with them. The Pharisees and their scribes began grumbling to His disciples, saying, "Why do you eat and drink with the tax collectors and sinners?" And Jesus answered and said to them, "It is not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

† Christ's call reached beyond the respected to the despised.

† Levi's immediate response showed the power of Jesus' summons.

† The kingdom offered forgiveness to the unworthy, not self-righteous.

### **Luke 5:33-39**

And they said to Him, "The disciples of John often fast and offer prayers, the disciples of the Pharisees also do the same, but Yours eat and drink." And Jesus said to them, "You cannot make the attendants of the groom fast while the groom is with them, can you? But the days will come, and when the groom is taken away from them, then they will fast in those days." And He also was telling them a parable: "No one tears a piece from a new garment and puts it on an old garment; otherwise he will both tear the new, and the piece from the new will not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; otherwise the new wine will burst the skins and it will be spilled out, and the skins will be ruined. But new wine must be put into fresh wineskins. And no one, after drinking old wine, wants new; for

he says, 'The old is good enough.'"

† The bridegroom imagery revealed Christ as the fulfillment of covenant promises.

† The parables of the garment and wineskins illustrated the incompatibility of Old Covenant forms with the New Covenant reality.

† Clinging to the old would blind many to the glory of the new.

### **How it applies to us today:**

† Luke 5 shows Christ's authority to call disciples, cleanse lepers, forgive sins, and inaugurate the New Covenant. The fulfilled perspective reminds us that the old wineskins of the Law ended in AD 70, and the new wine of Christ's kingdom reigns now. For us today, this means we must embrace His call, live as forgiven people, and walk in the freedom of His New Covenant kingdom.

**† This is the fulfilled perspective we proclaim at Fulfilled Prophecies †**

### **Source Index**

† Josephus, Antiquities 18.2.2

† Philo, On the Special Laws 3.123

† Tacitus, Annals 15.44

† Irenaeus, Against Heresies 3.10.1

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