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The Hands of Jesus

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THE HANDS OF JESUS
John 20:20

1. Introduce by Clarksville Hwy story.
   A. Driving to Clarksville you see the tent of Madame Divine.
   1. She’s a palm reader.
   2. She chg. fees, tho I’ve never been.
   3. Wonder what she sees in a hand?
   B. Remember palm reading as a child.
   1. How long was your life line?
   2. Or a Sherlock Holmes identification by ink, corns, or appearance of man identified his character.
11. I believe the hands of Jesus, w/o "fortune telling" tell us much. Jno.20:20 "When he had said this he
   A. What kind of hands were they?
   1. Shall we look at Jesus hands?
   B. You’ll see
   "Hands of love..."

          Mk.10:13 "They brought little children..."

(a) Natural for mothers to want their children blessed.
(b) Roy Osborne told me he walked thru Hell’s Kitchen in NYC and was uneasy.
(c) Jesus was on way to cross & He knew it.
(d) With all this tension he had time for kids.
(e) Disciples not boorish - just protecting Jesus.
(f) “Oh had no children that my might adopt all c.”

Benzie "Selfish, it saddened Jesus..."
What kind of person do children like?

What about child does Jesus like? (Barclay)
1. Humility
2. Obedience
3. Trust - has confidence in others
4. Short memory - doesn't know grudge.

2. Hands of Labor
   (a) Jesus worked to weariness Jno 4:6
      "Jesus therefore being wearied"
   (b) Think of the trips, sermons, deeds, He did.
      2 Thess. 3:10 "If any man will not work neither shall he eat"
   (c) Why do preachers look odd in work clothes - can't you see Jesus there?

3. The Hands of the Student.
   Matt 22:37 "Thou shalt love the Lord thy
   (a) Jesus knew the scriptures.
      1. Wonder how - could his folk afford the expensive rolls.
      2. Or was he a good listener?
      3. Did he go to the synagogue to read?
   (b) We need some clear thinking folk today.
   (c) We need people who drink deeply of the well of truth.
   a. Leper touched & healed Matt 8:1-4
      1. Tell Barclay's description
      2. Josephus says lepers treated like dead men - immediately dropped.
      3. Lev. 13:46 - "dwell alone" "outside Camp"
      4. Rent clothes, dishevelled hair, covering on upper lip and cry unclean. Lev. 13:45
      5. Law had 61 contacts that defile, leprosy secondly to dead body.
      6. Couldn't get closer than 6 ft - if 100 cubits of wind was blowing.
      7. No disease so separted men - yet this was the man Jesus touched!
      8. Leper came with confidence (lord) humility (if you will) reverence (worshipped)
      9. Jesus felt obligation of compassion took precedence over other rules.
     b. Will we touch?
        Orphans, widows, sick, shut-ins?

5. The Hands are Nail Scared.
   a. Thomas wouldn't believe John 20:27
      "Put your fingers here.
      (1) One said Jesus only one in eternity with a scar.
     b. Why?
        V. 24 was not with V. 26 with them
1. Shows God's love
2. Shows what man can't do for self
3. He died for us.

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PEDIATRICIAN'S PRAYER
by John Paul Gibson, M. D.

O God of Little Children, hear our earnest plea.
Be with these anxious parents, and also grant to me
sound judgment in decisions and to my hands true skill
as I attempt to help this little one so ill.

Bless Thou the means we use of drugs, or blood, or knife.
Reward our anxious efforts and spare this little life,
that this dear child shall be restored again to health
and bless anew this home with its most precious wealth.

O God, you had a son and know the piercing pain
that fills a parent's soul when life begins to wane.
Now may it be, we pray, according to Thy will
that this young gift of Yours may live and love us still.

Amen

(Read by Don McNeil on his Breakfast Club program)
In the ancient world Leprosy was the most terrible of all diseases. E. W. G. Masterman writes "no other disease reduces a human being for so many years to hideous a wreck." It might begin with little nodules which go on to ulcerate. The ulcers devour a fowl discharge; the eye brows fall out; the eyes become starring; the vocal chords become ulcerated, and the voice becomes hoarse, and the breath wheezes. The hands and feel always ulcerate. So the sufferer becomes a mass of ulcerated growths. The average course of that kind of leprosy is nine years, and it ends in mental decay, coma and untimely death. Perhaps it might begin with loss of all sensation in some parts of the body; the nerve trunks are affected; the muscles waste away; the tendons contract so the hands are like claws. There follows ulceration of the hands and feet.
then comes the progressive loss of fingers and toes, until in the end a whole hand or whole foot may die off. The duration of that kind of leprosy is anything from 20 to 30 years. It was the kind of terrible progressive death in which a man dies by inches. That's from Wm. Barclay.
I should like to have seen his hands:
Clenched baby-fists, under his mother's eyes,
Grasping at sun-motes, touching her smiling lips.

I should like to have seen his hands,
Holding a mallet and chisel, working the rough-grained wood
To beauty it never had known but for the touch of his hands.

I should like to have seen his hands
Touching a withered arm, teaching the dumb to sing,
Waking the dead, and mixing clay for a blind man's eyes.

I should like to have seen his hands
Washing the feet of Peter, and Judas alike;
Breaking the Bread of God, and giving the Wine of Woe.

Yes, I must see his hands
Clenched on spite-driven nails, torn and bleeding for me
Under the weight of my sin, the death of his body bringing life to my soul.

One day I shall see his hands.
Though there be but dust which once I wore like a garment
And laid aside in the endless dark of the tomb—

He will touch my dust,
And I shall see his hands.¹

¹From "Young People"; used by permission

K. Cassens