

*Picture of synagogue

- I. A life of bondage for a crippled woman
 - A. She was crippled physically

*Picture of woman

- B. She was crippled emotionally
 - C. She was crippled spiritually
- II. The touch of freedom

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind; to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” (Luke 4:18-19)

- A. Jesus saw her and understood her need
 - B. Jesus invited her to come to him

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” (Matthew 11:28)

- C. Jesus spoke words of freedom

“If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” (John 8:36)

- D. Jesus touched her with healing power

III. The life of freedom

- A. She was set free by Jesus
 - B. She was healed physically

“I am the Lord who heals you.” (Exodus 15:26)

- C. She was healed emotionally
 - D. She was healed spiritually
 - E. She gave praise to God

IV. A life of bondage for a religious leader

- A. He was crippled by human tradition

B. He was crippled by selfishness

C. He was crippled by hypocrisy

“You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.’” (Matthew 15:7-9)

V. The rule of Christ

A. The Kingdom of God is growing around the world

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19)

B. The Kingdom of God is working powerfully

“The God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed.” (Daniel 2:44)

C. The Kingdom of God demands a response

“Elijah went before the people and said, ‘How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him.’” (I Kings 18:21)