**Daily Devotional, December 3, 2020**

**"A Spirit of Infirmity", (Luke 13:10-13, NKJV)**

"*Now He was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up. But when Jesus saw her, He called her to Him and said to her, "Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.*" (Luke 13:10-13)

Of all the people present at synagogue that day, Jesus singled out a certain woman who was in the women's seating area, a distance away. This woman had "a spirit of infirmity", which seems to imply that there may have been a spiritual dynamic to her physical condition. She had been in that condition "eighteen years." The woman was "bent over", perhaps with some back trouble. And she "could in no way raise herself up."

I hope that Jesus sees you and has compassion on your physical ailments today, but even more so that he has compassion on any spiritual ailments that you may have. Do you have "a spirit of infirmity", a sin or struggle or situation which has tended to weigh you down for a long while now? Have you been in that way for "eighteen years", or another such long period of time? Are you "bent over" under the weight of sin, so much so that you have not been able to raise yourself up? Behold, there is good news. There is the Savior, Jesus Christ, who takes note of you. If you have any struggle, pray to God that He might lift you up, even carry you, through your time of weakness. You may struggle with addiction or the temptation of enabling someone to stay addicted, but it is only Jesus who can make you and your friend or loved one "straight." When Jesus does any work in our lives, and I pray that He does yet another great work in your life, let us be like the woman in our text, who "glorified God." It is Jesus who heals our hurting spirits, makes us straight, and raises us up.