

The Cure for the Common Christian

(Mark 2:15-17)

- Introduction:
1. On at least one occasion when Jesus was eating with Levi (Matthew), a tax collector, Jesus compared himself to a physician.
 2. How appropriate this designation was, for indeed, Jesus is the Great Physician.
 3. Not only could Jesus heal the body, but he could heal the soul.
 4. As he walked among us, there was nothing too hard for him.
 5. Yet today, with all our scientific and medical research, we cannot seem to eradicate certain diseases.
 6. Even more plaguing to us than is the “common cold” is the “common Christian.”
 - a. While the “common cold” may plague us, the “common Christian” will destroy us.
 7. Let’s examine the prescription given by the Great Physician against the common Christian.

I. Our Righteousness Must Exceed

- A. (Matthew 5:20).
- B. Don’t fail to realize how shocking this statement must have been.

II. We Must Engage the Heart

- A. (Matthew 5:21-22) Murder/Anger.
- B. (Matthew 5:27-28) Adultery/Lust.
- C. (Matthew 5:31-32) Divorce/Only for fornication.
- D. (Matthew 5:33-34) Swear/Don’t swear at all.
- E. (Matthew 5:38-39) Eye for an Eye/Turn the other cheek.
- F. (Matthew 5:43-44) Hate your enemy/Love your enemy.

III. We Must Develop Relationship

- A. (Matthew 6:1-18).
- B. Whether benevolence, prayer, or fasting; they must be directed to God.

IV. We Must Do, Act, & Obey

- A. (Matthew 7:21-27).

- Conclusion:
1. There is no reason to suffer with that for which there is a cure.
 2. Follow the prescription given by Jesus, the Great Physician.