



## **Continuing to Sin & Refusing to Believe** **John 5:10-18**

*Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee (John 5:14—KJV).*

*Afterward Jesus \*found him in the temple and said to him, “Behold, you have become well; do not sin anymore, so that nothing worse happens to you” (John 5:14—NASB).*

*Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, “See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you” (John 5:14—NRSV).*

From the gospels we learn that not everyone Jesus healed believed in Him either before or after He healed them. We also learn that many of the religious leaders did not believe in Him even after they saw the results of Jesus healing people suffering from blindness, leprosy, paralysis, and other diseases. Examples of belief and unbelief following the miracles of Jesus give evidence that the writers of the New Testament gave honest reports about Jesus healing people. New Testament writers did not pad Jesus’ resume to make Him look better than He was, and eventually the religious authorities and uninformed crowds cried out for Jesus to be crucified. A case in point relates to the man Jesus healed at the pool of Bethesda. He did not know who healed him. He only knew that the man who had healed him got him into trouble with the religious authorities for carrying his bed on the Sabbath. From the Bible, we know that not all diseases are caused by someone’s having sinned, but sin must have been the cause of this man’s sickness, because when Jesus found him in the temple, Jesus warned him not to sin any more. If he continued to sin, Jesus warned, something worse might happen to him. Then, knowing that Jesus would get in trouble for healing him on the Sabbath, as he had gotten into trouble for carrying his bed, he immediately reported Jesus to the religious authorities. Even though Jesus had healed him, the man refused to repent and believe in Jesus as his Savior.

## Thinking Further

1. What did the man Jesus healed say after the religious leaders told him that it was unlawful for him to carry his mat on the Sabbath?
2. Why did the healed man not know who had healed him?
3. Do you think the religious leaders believed that Jesus had healed the man? Why or why not?
4. When Jesus found the man He had healed in the temple, what did He say to him? What lessons might His words teach us that we can apply?
5. Why did the religious leaders persecute Jesus and want to kill Him?