

The Man With Dropsy Healed

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Print this page. Unscramble the words and circle the words in the story.

Jesus on a Sabbath day went to the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat with him. The people watched him to see what he would do. Many of them were constantly trying to find fault with him and looking for something with which to accuse him.

There was a man in the house who had dropsy. Today we would call the condition edema. When people have this condition, water accumulates in the tissues and causes the feet, legs and other parts of the body to swell. It can be very uncomfortable and can also become serious.

Jesus asked the lawyers and the Pharisees, "Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath day?" They did not answer him at all, but kept silent. Jesus took the man and healed him. He then let the man leave.

He knew what the Jewish rulers were thinking. On other occasions they had told him it was not lawful for him to heal on the Sabbath. He said to them, "Which of you, if you have a donkey or an ox fall into a pit, don't you pull him out even though it is the Sabbath day?" Again they refused to answer him because they knew it was not against the law to rescue a suffering animal that needed help, even on the Sabbath day.

If they now said it was a sin to heal this man on the Sabbath, it would have made them look as if they had no compassion for people who were suffering.

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